

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

English brutality, which led to a decline in the Irish population, has constantly fed the flames of Irish hatred." That, at least, was what Hitler's generals were told in the summer of 1940 as they made plans to invade Ireland, the back door of Britain's defences. On the Spectrum page tomorrow, Robert Fisk describes how the Nazis planned "Operation Green".

The Wednesday Page meets Lady Jean Crossman, the master of foxhounds who charged into action when she discovered her local Tory candidate had a wife who was involved with the League Against Cruel Sports.

Two Special Reports look at Hongkong and the world tea industry.

Unions' pay revolt toned down

Militant trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet as election fever affected the Scottish TUC in Rutherglen.

Faced with mounting political pressure, the miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospect of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party economic plan.

Page 2

House prices rise by 5%

House prices throughout the country have increased by as much as 5 per cent, representing the largest surge in demand since 1980, according to the latest residential survey.

"Gandhi" refusal

Sir Richard Attenborough said that he will not attend performances of his film "Gandhi" in South Africa unless the Pretoria Government opens every performance to all races throughout the film's entire run and that no cinema has to apply for a permit.

Indians forced, page 6

Oil "peace"

Two leading oil ministers, Shaikh Yamani of Saudi Arabia, and Dr. Odeh of the United Arab Emirates, said that the accord on oil pricing had been a success and the danger of a price war was now over.

Page 15

Wife goes home

Mrs Lorraine Gilmore, the wife of an alleged IRA "supergrass", has returned home to Londonderry after eight months in police protective custody. Her husband is still in hiding.

Page 2

Murder appeal

Paul Vickers, aged 48, the surgeon convicted at Teesside Crown Court in November 1981 of the murder of his wife, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction.

Page 3

Seveso trial off

The trial of five officials charged with responsibility for the Seveso dioxin pollution disaster opened in Italy and was adjourned. The accused were absent.

Page 6

Leaflet request

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to ask the Government for supplies of its leaflets on the Trident missiles and the nuclear debate, to send out with CND's own leaflets.

Page 4

Net profit

Tennis players are benefiting financially from tournaments in which they have not competed. Rex Bellamy discusses the dubious distribution of prize money.

Page 25

Squash changes

Revolutionary changes are planned in the sport of squash with the aim of giving it greater spectator appeal. Among the innovations is a new scoring system.

Page 24

Letters, page 13

'Troops were desperately pulling corpses from the rubble'

Blast kills 33 at US Embassy in Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

America's political honeymoon in the Lebanon came to a savage and terrifying end yesterday when a massive bomb – either hidden in a police vehicle and detonated by remote control or carried by a suicide bomber in his own car – blasted down part of the United States Embassy in Beirut, killing at least 33 people and wounding another 105. They included senior Embassy staff, American Marine guards and Lebanese civilians who were queuing at the ground-floor visa section when the explosion tore them to pieces.

The bomb was so powerful that the seven-storey central section of the Embassy simply collapsed in a cloud of dust and flames, crushing to death everyone inside. A Lebanese Military armoured vehicle was blown off the coastal boulevard that runs past the building and buried into the Mediterranean while the corps of Embassy staff were tossed 50 feet through the air onto a carpet of rubble and glass outside.

The explosion also blasted the self-confidence – some would say complacency – of the American-organised multinational force in Beirut and destroyed the sense of security that the American presence in Lebanon had given to tens of thousands of Lebanese.

Coming only days after the collapse of the Reagan initiative and at a time when the United States was still vainly trying to secure the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops from the country, the bomb was clearly intended to strike at the very heart of President Reagan's Middle East policy.

Only 10 minutes after the bomb went off, an organization calling itself "Al Jihad Al Islami" – "Islamic Holy War" – claimed responsibility for the carnage. An anonymous caller, speaking slowly and in a Lebanese accent, telephoned the Beirut newspaper *Al Watan* and the Agence France Presse news agency to say that the attack was "part of the Iranian revolution's campaign against the imperialist presence throughout the world".

In fact "Al Jihad Al Islami" is a faction of the Shia Muslim



Early poll call 'would put party first'

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

If the Prime Minister decides in favour of an early general election, as many of her colleagues in government believe she should, most voters will consider that her decision has been taken for reasons of political advantage rather than national interest.

An opinion poll taken for Independent Television News on Saturday invited respondents to say whether national interest or the pursuit of political advantage would be in the Government's mind. Nearly two thirds believed it would be political advantage.

Even among Conservative supporters 59 per cent preferred political advantage to national interest as the likeliest motive.

Among the Government's opponents the response was even less generous, with 74 per cent of Labour and 73 per cent of Alliance supporters ready to attribute an early election date to political advantage.

At present petrol in the EEC

must contain at least 0.15 grammes of lead per litre, the level to which British petrol will fall early in 1986. The present British level is 0.4 grammes per litre.

Existing car engines can meet the 1986 low-lead requirement but cannot run without lead-based anti-knock compound.

"I think this Royal Commission report has been valuable in cutting through a lot of the propaganda and a lot of the somewhat exaggerated claims of the various lobbyists on the various sides", Mr King said later.

It may be that fear which, to another question, led 62 per cent of Conservative supporters to say that the Government should "carry on" rather than have an early election, which only 28 per cent of Conservatives wanted. But among Labour supporters 76 per cent and among Alliance supporters 59 per cent wanted an election soon.

As to voting intention, the ITN poll, in an unusual sequence of questions, found that only 55 per cent of voters had decided which party to support. Among these the Conservatives again had a marked lead of 12 points. The figures were: Conservative 48 per cent, Labour 36 per cent, Alliance 12 per cent.

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figure for Alliance support was treated with some scepticism.

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electors on April 7 to 12.

'Striking link' between suicides and booklet

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

against five of the Society's executive committee members.

The Society, formerly known as EXIT, has refused to withdraw the booklet, which has sold more than 8,000 copies.

Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General is seeking a declaration from Mr Justice Woolf that publication and distribution of the booklet is an offence under the Suicide Act, 1961, which prohibits aiding and abetting, counselling or procuring suicide. He had no doubt that the Society would comply with such a ruling.

Mr Brown said it was hard to believe that drafting and disseminating the booklet was consistent with any belief other than that it would "enable a number of people to commit suicide who otherwise would

open up civil proceedings

after the death of a man aged 22 at Claridge's hotel, London, in July 1981. The man was found with a copy of the booklet and



Rescue workers in action. Some blackened corpses had been stripped half-naked by the explosion.

All new cars to take lead-free petrol within seven years

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

All new cars will have to run on lead-free petrol by 1990, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday. He was responding to a warning from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that the amount of lead in the blood of the "general population" was too close to a potentially dangerous level.

Mr King's statement went further than any previous Government commitment. He said he would like new cars to be able to run on lead-free petrol before 1990, but there were two hurdles to cross before a date could be announced. One

was to persuade the rest of the EEC to change Community rules to allow all member states to change to lead-free petrol, and the other was to agree with car manufacturers a date from which they could fit new models with appropriate engines.

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Top-level talks bring peace hope for BL

By Barry Clement

Talks between BL and the leaders of the two main unions involved in the three-week strike at the Cowley plant were adjourned last night until Wednesday.

The talks were arranged after a midnight telephone conversation between Mr Duffy, who was at his union's annual conference in Eastbourne, and Mr Evans in Scotland.

But any compromise will have to be put before local union leaders at Cowley and possibly before a mass meeting at the plant today.

The strikers, under the guidance of Mr David Buckle, local official of the transport union, have consistently refused to climb down over the winding-up issue.

• A BL worker at Longbridge killed himself after being laid off on his birthday because of the Cowley dispute.

The peace initiative was launched on Sunday by Mr

Walesa held on road to Warsaw

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

Lech Walesa, the former Solidarity chairman, was held by police yesterday while on his way to Warsaw to pay tribute to the Jewish resistance fighters who died 40 years ago in the ghetto uprising against the Germans.

The police move – they stopped Mr Walesa near Olszyn – on the road from Gdansk to Warsaw – was unexplained but seemed designed to prevent Mr Walesa taking part in pro-Solidarity demonstrations in the capital.

The incident was the latest in a series of clashes between Solidarity sympathizers and the authorities that have characterized the ghetto uprising anniversary.

The government had hoped to use the extensive ceremonies and celebrations as a way of building up international respectability and atoning for antisemitic campaigns waged in Poland 15 years ago.

Instead there has been a succession of disputes involving the underground and Jewish resentment at the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in wreath-laying ceremonies.

Mr Walesa, who openly admitted last week that he had met the illegal Solidarity underground, had hoped to take part in an unofficial ceremony marking the anniversary.

About 200 Jews and Solidarity supporters – including Dr Bronislaw Geremek, a former adviser to Mr Walesa – gathered outside the gates of the Jewish cemetery.

Mr Walesa was travelling yesterday with his friend Father Henry Jankowski, the Gdansk shipyard priest, and an actor, Jozef Duryasz. The two were subsequently released and Father Jankowski said he had been assured that Mr Walesa would be released soon.

Cleric jumps bail in South Africa and flees to UK

By Clifford Longley

The Rev Cedric Mayson, on trial under the Treason Act in South Africa, has jumped bail and fled to Britain where he is being sheltered by churchmen.

He arrived late on Sunday night, having evaded South African security men and crossed the Lesotho border. His trial resumed in Pretoria yesterday but was adjourned indefinitely after the judge said he had received a letter from Mr Mayson announcing that he was not intending to surrender to his bail of £1,000 rand (£500).

Canon Paul Questreicher, international secretary of the British Council of Churches, said Mr Mayson, a Methodist minister, was resting at an undisclosed address, and would explain how he escaped today.

Continued on back page, col 4

CHARLES CHURCH



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Election fever takes fire out of union attack on Labour's pay policy

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Rothesay

General election fever yesterday overtook the Labour movement's policy on free collective bargaining as militant Scottish trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet.

In the face of mounting political pressure, miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospects of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party plan for an annual "national economic assessment".

The Scottish TUC conference will still go on record tomorrow with a declaration of opposition to wage restraint, but by then delegates will have voted unqualified support for the new political accord, *Partners in Rebuilding Britain*.

Moderate leaders of the General, Municipal, Boiler-makers and Allied Trades Union (GMBATU) yesterday persuaded the STUC General Council to take over their motion committing Scotland's one million trade unionists to campaign for the return of a Labour government based on the policies contained in the joint document.

Mr David Bassett, general secretary of GMBATU and Mr Campbell Christie, deputy

chairman of the TUC economic committee, argued: "Unity has never been more essential".

Partners in Rebuilding Britain envisages a government-supported extension of collective bargaining which would involve acceptance of a policy on incomes. Mrs Helen Liddell, secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, insisted that the new deal would give the unions enormous power of a kind they had not enjoyed before.

It would give them a say in the allocation of resources within their enterprise, but she gave a warning: "It gives power with responsibility. You cannot accept the rights that power will give you and deny the responsibility."

Labour's priorities were to provide jobs, improve the living standards of the most needy, and to improve the living standards of those in work.

Hostility to wage restraint will resurface tomorrow as the miners seek to recoup as much ground as they can from the "heavy operation" mounted by British TUC leaders to quell what was seen as an embarrassing political revolt.

New deal or no deal? page 12

Firemen threaten to strike

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The likelihood of a series of one-day lightning strikes next week by Britain's 30,000 firemen depends on a government statement which is expected within the next few days of whether ministers are determined to make public service workers pay more for their pensions.

Firemen, with the police, have been told that from the beginning of next month their contributions to index-linked pensions will be increased by 4 per cent. Leaders of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) met Home Office officials yesterday to warn them that unless the government backed down the strike would then go ahead.

A report of the meeting was given to Mr William Whitelaw,

the Home Secretary, which is due to hold a delegate conference next Tuesday to decide whether to back the union executive's call.

Regional voting indicates that there will be overwhelming support at the conference for strikes unless there is a change in the situation.

The union has said that if the Government persists with its proposals to increase the pension contributions there will be a 2 per cent increase next month, with a further 2 per cent in November. That has met with the approval of the National Association of Fire Officers and the Chief Fire Officers Association.

It was not clear last night if the compromise would be acceptable to the Government for 10 years.

Labour fears split as Duffy attacks policies

From Barrie Clearest, Labour Reporter, Eastbourne

Evidence of a serious split in the Labour movement over disarmament and Common Market policies emerged yesterday during Mr Terence Duffy's residential speech to the amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

Mr Duffy, who is on the right-wing of the party, attacked Labour's policy on unilateralism and withdrawal from Europe, two of the key issues on which it hopes to attract electoral support. His speech will be highly embarrassing to Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, who is to address the conference tomorrow, and is committed to supporting both.

Mr Duffy's remarks on defence were seen as particularly unfortunate by Labour party supporters attempting to promote unity. The Conservatives, in apparent preparation

for an early election, are to make the Labour Party's policy of "one-sided" disarmament one of the central issues of the next general election.

Mr Duffy told the conference that Britain should contribute to Nato both in terms of conventional and nuclear weapons. "Unilateralism by Britain would weaken Nato and lessen the chances of lasting peace."

On the Common Market he said that trade unionists in European companies did not wish Britain to withdraw.

In spite of his attack on the two crucial Labour Party policies, Mr Duffy said that he would be campaigning for a Labour victory.

However, there is no indication that the executive will agree with Mr Duffy's stance in spite of a 33 to 19 right-wing majority.

Ministries criticized

Mr Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, has criticized three government departments for failing to meet their own standards of control over nationalized industries (our Political Correspondent writes).

A report, which will provide a framework for a Commons public accounts investigation, complains of "substantial deficiencies" in information provided by the National Coal Board, British Telecommunications and the British Railways Board.

Mr Downey said that Department of Energy officials had repeatedly recorded that the information in coal board corporate plans had been inadequate to assess the plans' viability, but efforts to improve the situation were "slow to bear fruit".

The coal board had also consistently failed to file financial

returns within agreed periods and Mr Downey noted that although the department continued to press for the prompt production of these returns, it considered legal sanctions to reinforce the practice inappropriate.

On the Department of Industry's control of British Telecommunications, Mr Downey said: "It appeared to me that the department had little detailed knowledge of the economic modelling method used by BT to prepare the medium-term plans and that its ability to assess its soundness was therefore impaired."

Mr Downey also said that the British Railways Board plan for 1981-85 had failed to show the build-up of revenue costs and income projections and although it had referred to consideration of other strategies they had not been given.

Chemist to be top defence scientist

By Peter Hennessy

Professor Richard Norman, an organic chemist from York University, is to be the next chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence. He succeeds Professor Sir Ronald Mason, who returned to Sussex University earlier this year.

The appointment will be announced at the end of the month after positive vetting inquiries are completed and security clearance has been granted.

Professor Norman, aged 50, is expected to take up his appointment full-time in September, after a period of working in the ministry part-time while completing his duties at York. He has no previous Whittlell experience.

The job of chief scientist at the ministry is normally held for five years.

Youth 'put woman's body on railway line'

By Peter Hennessy

Mrs Katie Hopkins, aged 36, was murdered on her way home to a midnight rendezvous with a man. Reading Crown Court was told yesterday (Our Reading Correspondent writes).

Counsel said that Mrs Hopkins, an attractive woman, had left her husband at home and was walking to meet Johannes Paff, a veterinary surgeon, when the killer struck. She was tripped, strangled and sexually attacked before being dumped on a railway line.

Alan Pinkerton, aged 19, a factory worker of Dunton Way, Iver, Buckinghamshire, pleaded not guilty of murdering Mrs Hopkins last October.

Mr John Morris, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mrs Hopkins was attacked near Iver railway station.

Mr Morris said that when Mr



Flying back to the past

Fifty years ago today two Westland biplanes flew over Mount Everest for the first time.

The photographs taken then and published in *The Times* helped British climbers in their conquest of the mountain two decades later.

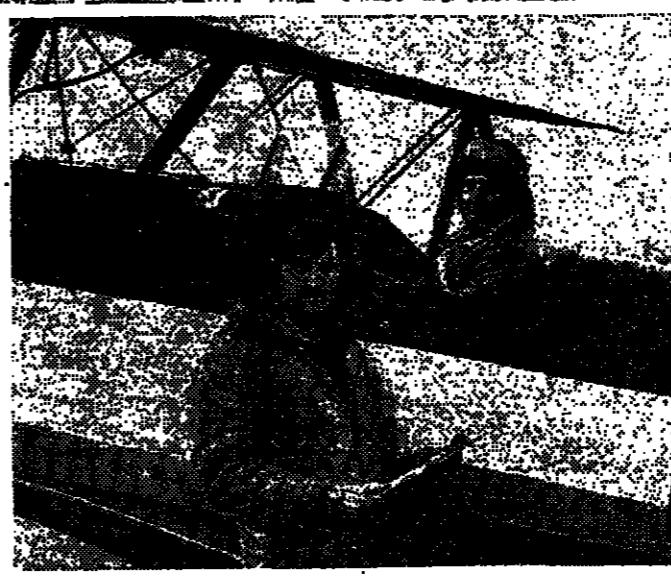
One of those is reproduced above, showing the Houston Westland flying towards Everest, approaching Lohaste, at 32,000ft.

Now two British pilots are preparing to repeat the 1933 flight. Mr George Almond (right, standing) will fly to Nepal next week

to obtain the necessary permissions for the flight, and Mr John Jordan (in the aircraft) will test the Boeing Stearman over Bedfordshire.

Mr Jordan will particularly check supercharger oxygen equipment required to push the aircraft to 30,000ft.

This year's journey, planned for the next few months, will also be photographed and sons of the 1933 aircrew will be invited to fly in the camera aircraft and follow in their fathers' footsteps.



Disabled couple can keep child

From Arthur Osman, Lincoln

A severely handicapped couple yesterday won a legal battle to keep their son, aged four and a half months, who had been made a ward of court on the application of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Mr Justice Hollings, sitting at Lincoln, ruled that the baby should be brought up in the care of its parents, who would be supervised by the county's social services department. The child would remain in wardship to prevent any disclosure of identity.

The judge said that the parents had been to an assessment centre at Oxford to see how they coped with the baby. There had also been an independent report by the court welfare officer, noting "great, good and proper love" between parents and child. The judge said he considered it was an acceptable risk to allow the parents to look after the child.

The mother, who wept when the judge announced they could keep the baby, said later: "We were told that we were too disabled to look after a child. But I cook and do my own shopping and in the past I have

tests assured them that the risk of having a handicapped child was no worse than for anyone else."

She was then examined by a leading obstetrician and they agreed to be sterilized after the baby was born.

During the four months since the wardship order was made they had been in the care of social and health workers. Before yesterday's hearing both parents voiced their anger about their initial treatment by the social services.

The mother, aged 30, has congenital club foot, and father, aged 34, is confined to a wheelchair with cerebral palsy. They have a joint income of £88 a week from allowances.

The husband said: "I had been a difficult birth, and after returning to their flat she suffered post-natal depression and did have difficulty in coping. She returned to hospital and four days before Christmas a High Court writ was served on them, seeking to make the baby a ward."

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They found that the leaves contained substantial amounts of the chemical (E)-B-farnesene, which is the alarm signal of several species of aphid, including most of those which transmit viruses to potatoes.

They found that this pheromone was produced by the sticky B hairs, and that sufficient amounts of the chemical were present above the surface of the leaf to trick the aphids into believing that the leaf was a danger site.

Dr Gibson observed that whereas aphids are normally attracted by the yellowish green colour of the leaves, they would keep between 1 and 3 mm from the edge of an *S. berthaultii* leaf, walking along its length "as if in two minds about climbing on to it".

Dr Gibson hopes that a potato plant will soon be available for cultivation that is chemically resistant to aphids. The insects should be discouraged from landing on the crop by the warning signs emitted by the leaf and therefore, provided the stock is initially free from diseases, the incidence of aphid-transmitted diseases should be eliminated or substantially reduced.

Source: *Nature* April 14 (vol 302, p 661).

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Two drama prizes for Cambridge

Cambridge University

Manners won two of the top

awards in *The Sunday Times*

National Student Drama Festival at Wakefield (Christopher Warman writes).

Peter Jukes won the RSC's

Buzz Goodby student direc-

tor award for his direction of the

company he might be able to

persuade them to adopt a new

style of dissidents.

He intended to impress on

them the great pressure from all

countries in the Community of

the Soviet Union to show some

sign of a wish to fulfil the

Helsinki agreement.

Lord Bethell said yesterday:

"The Soviet Embassy called me

this morning and asked me to

return my visa. When I refused

to promise to do so, they said

they would not allow the

aircraft to land in Moscow

unless they received a guarantee

that I was not on it."

</div

House buying surges to 1980 levels as prices rise by 5%

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

There has been a spring surge in house prices throughout London, the South-east, the South-west, and parts of the North and the Midlands, according to the latest residential market survey.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' monthly report on house prices, published today, shows that two-thirds of all estate agents taking part in the survey indicated rises of between 2 and 5 per cent and one in seven say that the cost of houses has increased by more than 5 per cent.

Homes in Greater London and the Home Counties are showing the largest rises, according to the report. An agent in Edmonton, north London, comments that over the last two months property prices have risen by between 5 and 8 per cent.

In Orpington, Kent, lower priced homes are selling for as much as 8 per cent more than at the beginning of the year.

However, it is not only the more affluent Home Counties that are witnessing the upturn in house prices. In the

depressed West Midlands agents are reporting that the market is more buoyant than for the past two or three years, with shortages of all types of property.

For the first time since the autumn of 1979 the institution says that less than a third of its participating members are reporting no price changes during the last quarter.

A burst of house hunting during March has meant that houses across the country which had been languishing on estate agents' books for up to a year have now come under offer.

In the East Midlands a Hinckley firm commented that several houses which had been on the market for a year or more had been sold.

Demand is generally strongest for pre-1919 terraced houses which are usually sought by first-time buyers.

However, new property estate agents as far apart as Yorkshire and East Anglia are reporting faster sales in the more expensive categories. Agents in York are saying that homes at more than £75,000 are selling well

and the same is being reported in Newmarket.

An agent in Barnes, south-west London, commented in the survey that demand for houses in the £100,000 to £150,000 range is not being satisfied because of an acute shortage.

However, in spite of this buoyant market agents are expressing concern over a shortage of mortgage finance.

Mortgage queues are reported even in parts of the North, where demand is not at its strongest, and in Newcastle, Washington, and in the East Midlands.

Areas of highest demand, such as London and the South-east, have lists for loans. In London, for example, a prospective purchaser can expect to wait three or four months for a mortgage.

Mr John Thomas, the institution's housing market spokesman, commented: "The burst of activity in Budget month was to be expected, but contrary to some recent headlines, no agents have reported queuing by sellers."

Surgeon 'could have simulated suicide'

By David Nicholson-Lord

A surgeon convicted of poisoning his mentally ill wife with a rare anticonvulsant drug could have disposed of her by the much simpler course of writing to the Voluntary Euthanasia Society (formerly Exit), or simulating suicide through an overdose of barbiturates, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Yet Paul Vickers, aged 48, "virtually put his name up in lights" when obtaining prescriptions for the drug CENU, Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, told the court. There was no attempt to conceal his name or address with a doctor's spider writing.

"It was virtually a visiting card," Mr Gray added. "He was running the most enormous peril."

Vickers, formerly head of the accident department at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction at Teesside Crown Court in November 1981, for the murder of his wife. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a recommendation by Ms Justice Borcham, the trial judge, that he serve a minimum of 17 years.

The grounds of appeal include alleged defects in the trial judge's summing up of medical evidence and his directions to the jury on the alternative verdict of manslaughter. There is also an application to call fresh evidence from three *News of the World* reporters who interviewed Miss Pamela Collison, Vickers's co-defendant, after she was acquitted of murder.

Vickers, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, was brought from Wakefield prison for yesterday's hearing. Dressed in a dark suit and tie, he betrayed little emotion from the dock, occasionally leaning forward to concentrate on points of evidence.

Mr Gray said there was no medical evidence that CENU, which is undetectable after death and was used to create in

Closer link for man's two families

Mr John Knight's mistress and their nine children are to be rehoused in the Cornish village where his wife and their 11 children live.

If Vickers had wanted to murder his wife there were simpler ways for a doctor to dispose of a woman suffering from schizophrenia, depression and a deformed hip and who was taking many drugs.

Mr Gray described the "sieve mentality" of the Vickers household and the surgeon's meeting with Miss Collison, aged 33, whom he called a "femme fatale". Miss Collison received a six-month suspended prison sentence on two charges of dishonesty, obtaining the drug.

Mr Gray said Vickers had a deep affection for his wife but ran the risk of "induced psychosis", a tendency to adopt her schizophrenic symptoms. His involvement in medical politics led to his meeting with Miss Collison, a political researcher.

The extent to which the pair interacted might never be fully known, but she impressed him with the force of her personality. There was a campaign of blackmail, and Miss Collison kept photocopies of all the prescriptions she obtained.

Lord Justice Lawton, presiding, said medical evidence on the use of CENU in 1979 was almost neutral. But he added that if the trial judge had summed up medical evidence wrongly by saying there "must" have been more bone-marrow damage shortly before Mrs Vicker's death, it would be enough of a slip to make the verdict unsafe.

But Mr Justice Michael Davies said the trial jury might have thought it was clever of Vickers to use false patients' names on the prescriptions. "He did get away with it quite happily until Miss Collison went to the police," he added.

Hunt man cleared over cat killed by hounds

The whipper-in of the Berkeley Hunt was cleared yesterday of criminal damage and cruelty to a pet cat killed by hounds on a Gloucestershire caravan site.

Magistrates at Whitminster dismissed summonses brought by the owner of the cat, Mrs Dorothy Newman, supported by the League Against Cruel Sports, against Patrick Martin, aged 25, of The Kernels, Berkeley.

The court was told that the hounds mauled the cat to death after they killed a fox they had pursued on to Berkeley Vale Caravan Park on February 27 last year.

Mr Edward Copley, defending, said Mr Martin did all he could to stop the pack entering the site and was not aware of the attack on the cat.

The magistrates ordered that the costs of both sides be paid from central funds.

Last December the league persuaded the High Court to overturn the magistrates' original decision not to issue summonses.

Yesterday, Mr Edmund Lawson, for the prosecution, told the court that Mrs Christine Wilcox, who lived on the site, snatched the 15-year-old cat, called Bridie, from the hounds but it died.

Mr Lawson did not suggest Mr Martin intended that the cat should be harmed, but he was "reckless" in allowing the hounds into the caravan park.

Miss Wilcox, who now lives at Hinmon Court, Berkeley, said she saw about six dogs attacking the cat.

"They were playing tag-of-war with it. I managed to punch one of the dogs on the nose. I grabbed the cat and pulled it away." The cat bit and scratched her as it tried to escape.



Trader jailed

Robert Hay, aged 43, a street trader of Martland Park, Hampstead, west London, was jailed for five years in the Central Criminal Court yesterday for conspiring to steal mail from a train. Four others admitted their part in the attempted robbery last week.

Father's appeal

Mr Arnold Atkins, the father of Gillian Atkins, aged 14, who was murdered, made a plea yesterday at Bourne, Lincolnshire, police station to the killer, or anyone who knows his identity, to go to the police.

Dead nurse film

Mr Ronald Smith is supporting plans to make a film about the death of his daughter Helen, aged 23, a nurse, who died during an illegal party in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, nearly four years ago.



Mr Christopher Hughes outside his home in Ponders End, north London (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Driver aims for Mastermind title

By David Hewson

Mr Christopher Hughes, aged 35, a London Tube driver, will know tonight whether he is the BBC's new *Mastermind*.

But like the other three finalists and the audience, he will be sworn to secrecy about the result, which will be transmitted only with the final's transmission on May 8.

Mr Hughes has established himself as the leading authority on the exploits of Mr Harry Flashman, the Victorian military hero, sportsman and cad.

His television performance on Sunday night, in which he answered correctly 18 questions about Flashman's career.

"If I had had the time, I would have been right on both,"

but he started me because of the way he went through it."

In fact, the seven *Flashman* novels, in which real historical detail is cunningly intermingled with the cowardly machinations of a character first seen as the farm bully in *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, were Mr Hughes's second choice as a specialist subject.

"I thought he was marvelous", Mr Fraser said from his home in the Isle of Man. "He got two more answers than I did. I could not remember the name of a woman in the Indian Mutiny and I wrongly anticipated a question about Palmerston meeting Flashman."

After winning his first heat on British Steam Locomotives 1900 to 1968, a subject to which he will return tonight, he wanted to opt for questions on C. S. Forester's *Hornblower* books in the semi-final, only to find that they had been selected by another contestant.

At Christmas Mr Hughes decided to take the *Flashman* books instead, and set about re-reading them.

Yesterday morning, unmoved by any nerves at the prospect of tonight's final at the Middle Temple, he clocked on for his morning shift driving a Tube train between Cockfosters and Hesthrow, returning home at lunchtime to eat with his mother.

Mr Hughes left school at the age of 15 with four O levels and found a job working with steam engines as a British Rail fireman. When the passing of steam ruled out his ambition to become an engine driver, he joined London Transport.

Warwidows get Labour support for grave visits

By Michael Harnell

The campaign for government assistance to enable war widows to visit the graves of their husbands received a boost yesterday when Mr Merlin Rees, the former Home Secretary, said he will press in the House of Commons for the Government to provide facility trips to the graves.

His scheme envisages a start with those widowed in 1914 and allows for a steady progression through the ranks of those who lost servicemen husbands until 1967, when the Government introduced the present policy of providing facility visits to the graves of men who died after that date.

The proposal coincided with an attack on government statistics which according to Ministry of Defence spokesmen make sponsored visits too expensive to entertain. Although there are 64,000 widows of servicemen killed in action before 1967, mostly in the Second World War, it is estimated that fewer than 10,000 would want to make such visits. Allowing for £50 a head, which is regarded as a realistic figure, it would mean a cost to the government of no more than £500,000.

Mrs Iris Strange, the secretary of British War Widows and Associates, the organization which is leading the campaign for visits, said: "If you take into account those who do not want to go, those who have already paid their last respects and those whose husbands' last resting places are not known, you are left with surprisingly few widows.

"Those who wish to go and cannot afford to do so have in many cases spent a lifetime yearning to go and they must be allowed to before it is too late."

Mr Rees has twice written to Mrs Margaret Thatcher urging government assistance, but she replied that the numbers would be too large and any scheme too difficult and expensive to organize.

24 new companies make it a record month for Wales.

The number of businesses registered in Wales hit a record level in February.

Twenty-four new companies are in the technology sector.

A spokesman for the Welsh Development Agency said: "We are delighted to welcome

the 24 new companies and Bank of Scotland 234 new companies registered in February.

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PARLIAMENT April 18 1983

1990 target date for lead-free petrol

Politics deprives 'peace' of any charitable status

LEGAL AFFAIRS

After the final decision in the Moonees case it might be necessary to look at the whole position of charity law. Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, said after he had told the Commons that he had made representations for the withdrawal of charitable status only in respect of the two charitable trusts associated with the Unification Church.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab) in raising the issue asked: Does he agree that the law and practice on what constitutes charitable status is confused, that leads to the difficulty of distinguishing between charitable work and lobbying, which leads to the Charity Commissioners having to make difficult political judgments, and that results in an atmosphere which of course creates that want to further peace and disarmament being denied charitable status while it is not denied to organizations such as the British Atlantic Committee?

Sir Michael Havers: I think the problem is that the Charity Commissioners have to work on existing law. If indeed the law should be changed, if that is the purpose of his question, then that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C): Is he aware that the

Chancellor of the Exchequer persistently uses as one of the reasons for not giving exemption from VAT for charities that there are certain charities which are "undesirable", one of those being the Moonees?

In the light of that, will he make strong representations to the Charity Commissioners that they should now have a review of their charities and charitable status in order to resolve this sort of question?

Sir Michael Havers: The law is not altogether clear and that is why it has been the problem with the two trusts we have mentioned but any major change in the charity law would require legislation and that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): Would he not agree that the law is in place in terms of the various judgments handed down over the years on charitable status? Is it not wrong that the Charity Commissioners should decide what is "political"? They have just become "political" in the sense it was not before.

Sir Michael Havers: The charity law is not in chaos. What has happened is that charity law is of long standing. A lot of the judicial decisions on which the commissioners act are rather old and I think what has happened is that perhaps the law has not kept up with

Dubs: Political judgments lead to anomalies

the change in the sort of trusts setting charitable status.

Originally it was decided to deal with charities which were receiving charitable funds. After the final decision on the Moonees, it may be necessary to look at the whole position on charity law.

Mr Arthur Devlin, Opposition spokesman on legal affairs (Aberconwy, Gwent, Lab): Though he is right to do so, in the case of the Moonees, to have to bring a test case, is a cumbersome way of clarifying the law on charitable status and would be considerate to undertake some sort of quick review to look at the implications of the present confused and hazy state of the law, and in particular the powers of the Charity Commissioners.

Sir Michael Havers: I certainly share his view about the law being

as it is and that is one of the reasons I sought to persuade the Charity Commissioners to hold an inquiry under Section 6 rather than just deregistering, because it is going to be a long and expensive process.

Regarding change or any review of the law, that is a matter for the Home Secretary.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C): Is he aware that the

Government has not kept up with

suppress the report. It was a forecast only for the next decade.

Mr John Cunningham, an Opposition spokesman (Whitstable, Lab) said it was a mistake for the Government to talk about a recovery when the manufacturing output was at a 17-year low, certainly the worst output record for any Government for a long time?

Where was the recovery taking place – in textiles, steel, paper, shipbuilding, or engineering?

Mr Baker: There are unmistakable signs that recovery is taking place.

Retail sales are 4.5 per cent higher, and housing starts 30 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

Car sales for the first quarter were some 21 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

That was why the Government had set out to achieve that in 1979 and it was what it had achieved.

Mr John Garrett, an Opposition spokesman on industry countered by saying that business failures had reached an all-time record this year, at 88 a month, compared with 25 when Labour was last in power, and that the present Government had wiped out a fifth of British manufacturing capacity since it came to office.

Mr John Evans (Aberdare, Lab) opened the exchanges, said that last year, for the first time since the industrial revolution, the United Kingdom had been importing more goods than it was exporting.

Mr Baker replied that the decline of manufacturing production had not affected Britain only, and production in other countries had declined significantly more than in Britain in 1982. In the United States it had been 8%, in France 14%, in Germany 2½ per cent and in Britain only 4% per cent.

This is clear evidence (he said) that we are pulling out of recession ahead of our partners.

Mr John Grant (Islington, Central, SDP): If the Minister is so sure of the economic upturn in June is bursting out all over the Government benches, why do ministers find it necessary to try to suppress the recent National Economic Development Council report which showed a different picture, particularly of employment prospects?

Mr Baker: There was no attempt to

Increased demand for British steel

There was evidence of increased demand for British steel products, Mr John Baker, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said when answering a question when Mr Ray Hughes (Newport, Lab) that the Secretary of State for Industry should initiate talks with leaders of motor manufacturing companies operating in the United Kingdom to impress upon them the need to use British steel in their products.

Mr Baker said: It is for British steelmakers to prove that they can produce the right product in terms of quality, price and delivery, and to initiate discussions with any potential customers.

Mr Hughes said that when the all-party motors group recently visited the Ford Motor Company at Dagenham they were told that only 20 per cent of British steel was being used in the models being produced there, a pretty disgusting figure.

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Mugabe flays corruption and plans more socialism for Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Zimbabwe entered the fourth year of its independence yesterday with celebrations across the country, military displays and indications that a more rigorous socialist policy will be pursued in the year ahead.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, attended a rally in Harare at which President Canaan Banana, delivering the key address, said the next year of independence threatened to be "probably the most difficult period we Zimbabweans have yet had to face".

Although Zimbabwe, remained one of the most peaceful and stable countries in the developing world there had been a spread over the past year of "a cancerous virus... the dissident menace, which poses an intolerable threat to our continued peace and prosperity," the President said.

A scheduled rally by the Fifth Brigade, the unit charged with responsibility for recent massacres in Masabeleland was cancelled and substituted by a demonstration of unarmed combat by the new Presidential Guard.

Mr Mugabe has had little to say over the anniversary weekend about the Masabeleland troubles and has concentrated on economic objectives and problems.

In a speech to the nation on Sunday evening he foreshadowed a leadership shake-up with a scathing attack on

corruption and what he termed "boycott tendencies in ministries".

In an apparent reference to the recent dismissal of the mayor and councillors of the Midland city of Gweru he attacked "unscrupulous" officials for avarice and misappropriation of public funds.

"Even Cabinet ministers

with a more theoretical and thus hypocritical commitment to socialism have, under one guise or another, proceeded to acquire huge properties by way of farms and other business concerns," he said.

The severity of Mr Mugabe's words appeared to herald a long-anticipated reshuffle in the Cabinet which, with 32 ministers, is unusually large and costly for a country of Zimbabwe's size and resources.

His utterances in the lead-up to the anniversary also point to a more overtly socialist programme in economic policy.

A professor Marxist, Mr Mugabe has followed a pragmatic economic course in the past three years but on Friday announced plans for large-scale nationalization of industry.

Writing in *Zimbabwe News* the mouthpiece of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party, he said the Government intended to acquire control of the grain milling, fuel procurement and national transport industries and "many other areas falling in one batch".



Papal greeting: The Pope meeting the Armenian Patriarch Karekin II to celebrate Mass on the outskirts of Rome yesterday.

Zhao accuses Vietnam of invading Thailand

Canberra (Reuters) - Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, accused Vietnam yesterday of invading Thailand and said Hanoi was undermining stability in South-East Asia by repeated military action along the border with China.

"To our regret, the Vietnamese aggressors have to this day persisted in their armed occupation of Kampuchea and recently have gone further by frenziedly invading Thailand," Mr Zhao said in a speech to a parliamentary lunch in Canberra.

"What is more, they have repeatedly carried out military provocations along China's border. These actions... have seriously undermined the security and stability of South-East Asia."

The New China news agency said at the weekend that Chinese artillery had destroyed surface fortifications and earth defence works in Vietnam after frequent Vietnamese border attacks in the last month.

Diplomatic sources in Peking said the clashes between the two neighbours, who fought a bitter war in 1979, were clearly linked with Vietnamese raids on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

China's apparent aim was to distract Vietnam from its dry season offensive against Kampuchean guerrillas, they added.

Asian and Western diplomats say there is an understanding that China would react on its

Election trend, page 7

Prisoners of conscience



From Olli Kivinen Helsinki

The eight neutral and non-aligned participants in the Madrid follow-up meeting of the European Security Conference (CSCE) have issued a last-minute appeal to all heads of government to save the process from a total collapse.

The appeal, initiated by President Koivisto of Finland, urges all participants to accept the draft final document put forward by the neutral and non-aligned countries when the Madrid talks are resumed today.

Finnish officials briefing journalists on the appeal said that the 34 CSCE participants are very near to a compromise, and all important policy matters have been settled. Only the political will to take the final step is missing.

The appeal points out that the Helsinki Final Act is European states and the United States and Canada; but it is now feared that the whole process is in danger if results cannot be achieved in the Madrid conference, which has dragged on for two and half years.

The appeal points out that the draft includes concrete steps in all areas covered by the Helsinki Final Act, including military, confidence-building measures and human rights.

If no understanding is reached, it is feared that the whole CSCE process will be endangered.

Mr Chen became a member of the Human Rights Alliance, one of the better-known unofficial groups. His home address was used openly as a letterbox for the Alliance.

Towards the middle of March 1979, the official Chinese press started criticising people who were said to be going too far in their demands for democracy.

Mr Chen was only one of many to be arrested, he is now one of the few not to have been released.

Korean disco death toll reaches 25

From Jacqueline Redd, Seoul

Twenty-five South Koreans died and 67 others were injured, most of them teenagers, when fire swept through a disco club in Taegu, the third largest city in South Korea.

A witness, who escaped, said that as fire spread through the disco which is on the second floor, the place was plunged into darkness. About 150 people

Air Force personnel have

been informed in previous years, this

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in one batch.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE STRUGGLE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

UNESCO House,
Paris: 25-29 April 1983

In defiance of United Nations decisions, human conscience and justice, racist South Africa is still occupying Namibia illegally.

1966

The United Nations terminates South Africa's mandate and assumes direct responsibility over Namibia;

1967

The United Nations Council for Namibia is established as the legal Administering Authority for the Territory until independence;

1971

The International Court of Justice also tells South Africa that it is under obligation to withdraw from the Territory;

1976

The Security Council unanimously calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia and for free and fair elections in the Territory under United Nations supervision and control;

1978

The Security Council adopts plan for Namibia's independence;

1983

The Namibian people are still denied their inalienable right to freedom, self-determination and independence.

Under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the people of Namibia are waging a legitimate struggle for freedom and independence.

SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA

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The gentle Gandhi forgotten in India

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi

Just after the premiere of Sir Richard Attenborough's film *Gandhi*, in Delhi, the Indian cartoonist R. L. Laxman published a drawing of two men emerging from a cinema where the film was showing.

One man is saying: "I understand it is based on a true life story."

There are many Indians who welcome the Attenborough film as a reminder of Gandhi's actions and teachings because they feel that, to some extent, the Mahatma, engineer of India's independence, has been forgotten in his own land.

Many of the young, who have to study his life in school, see him as largely irrelevant in terms of their own ideas about India in the 1980s, a faded and somewhat cranky figure in history.

There are many in the middle classes, especially Westernized people who tend to view him as an eccentric, just as some of his contemporaries did. He was a difficult and irritating man.

Indian feelings about him are so complex and sensitive - a mixture of pride, guilt and embarrassment - that it would be very hard for any Indian to attempt what Sir Richard Attenborough did.

The film has been generally well received in India; but it remains a subject of controversy in the newspapers and in conversation and is the cultural talking point of the year. It has made many reflect on the work of a man they do not know well. Gandhi's image and ideas are often invoked - he was, after all, the father of independent India - but he is something of a totem and there are few who sincerely believe his methods and philosophy have practical application today.

His image is everywhere. Politicians frequently refer to Gandhian principles of self-help, service and humility. A visit to the Mahatma's cremation site in Delhi is obligatory for every visiting foreign notable. Even when bandits surrender publicly to the authorities a picture of the Mahatma is on the surrender platform.

Many politicians wear clothing made of homespun cotton and wool, a tradition stemming from Gandhi's rejection of Western dress;

Gandhi's methods of protest remain popular. "Courting arrest", making a token breach of the law in order to be arrested, is a constantly employed device, and fasting, which has a particular Gandhian symbolism, is frequently used to apply pressure on the authorities.

Gandhi called the untouchables "Harijans", meaning God's Children, and the name has stuck. But treatment of them remains unpleasant and sometimes brutal. Their lot is very slowly improving, but attitudes to them remain largely entrenched. It was a part of the Indian granite that Gandhi never chipped.

Gandhi is consigned to history in the Indian mind as an enigmatic and idiosyncratic man, a shrewd politician who saw how the British sense of justice could be exploited and knew, as they did, that the game was up in India.

His steady defiance of authority is remembered, but his gentler ideas are largely forgotten. He wanted the humble spinning wheel, which was his symbol, to be the device on India's national flag. But India chose the powerful wheel device of the Emperor Ashoka.

The commission was formed



Private visitor: Mrs Thatcher receiving Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at Downing Street yesterday.

Reprisals feared as Libyans go on trial

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The trial opened here yesterday of two Libyans accused of torturing their fellow-countrymen in West Germany against a background of intensive efforts by Bonn to free eight Germans held in Libya as hostages.

Dr Mustapha Zaidi, aged 31, and a student, Abdullah Yahia, are accused of causing bodily harm, unlawful imprisonment and coercion.

The prosecution maintains that on November 13 and 14 the two men tortured two students in the Libyan People's Bureau - the equivalent of an embassy - in Bonn, threatening them with forcible removal to Libya and death because of their contacts with Libyan opposition figures.

Dr Zaidi has been in custody since March 29, and Mr Yahia since April 5. Their trial opened amid strict security precautions, but was adjourned after a few hours as counsel for Mr Yahia

was not available.

The Pope bluntly told the 300 members of the Trilateral Commission in an audience at the Vatican yesterday that they all came from rich countries and therefore bore the responsibility for encouraging people to face up to their duty of international solidarity.

The Pope reminded them that international solidarity not only involved relations between nations but all fields including governmental relations and those between multinational companies.

Their discussions were closely

connected with man's future and so they would constantly find themselves facing the frontiers between technology and ethics.

The dead man, a former boxer, crossed into East Germany with his wife to drive to a boxers' reunion in West Berlin. Some 50 miles inside the frontier he met the husband of a cousin at a motorway rest-stop and gave him a box of sweets as a gift from the Hamburg sports

challenge to reformers

Police let rioters run amok



of the time wandering around the city centre.

Governor Franco Montoro said that he wanted to talk with the protesters before behaving like previous governors and breaking heads. But there is also evidence that the police deliberately held back until the riots became so serious that they could not easily be controlled.

When Brazil's three most important states, São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro, passed into the hands of the opposition, the central Government removed control of the political and social police from the governors.

There are many groups with an interest in proving that the middle-of-the-road administration promised for the three states does not prosper.

Identified by the police as playing a part were pressure groups from the left, including members of one of Brazil's two active supporters of Señor Montoro's PMDB party, for the expedition reason that they have space to operate and consolidate themselves under such an administration.

Some of these groups were apparently behaving in good faith, although with considerable naivety, in trying to put pressure on the incoming

Concluded

Bonn anger over death at border

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

Herr Heinrich Windelen, the Minister for Relations with East Germany, has demanded an official explanation from East Berlin of how a West German traveller died on April 10 during questioning in East Germany by border guards.

The body of Herr Rudolf Burkert, a 45-year-old publican, was sent back to West Germany in a sealed coffin with the explanation that he had died of a heart attack. West German Doctors, however, found numerous bruises on the body, cuts on the head and one eyelid, and a broken windpipe. These have led to suggestions that the man was severely beaten.

Herr Windelen asked for an explanation the next day without success, and the matter is to be taken up at the mixed border commission on Thursday. He has expressed fears that the man was beaten.

The incident has aroused considerable anger here, and comes at a time when an East German official has arrived to attend the Hanover Fair.

Yesterday he was in Bonn for talks with government and opposition leaders in preparation for a possible visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

Herr Günter Mittag, an economics expert in the East German Politburo, yesterday met Christian Democratic and liberal members of Parliament, as well as Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, who expressed deep concern over the border incident.

Herr Mittag was also due to hold talks with Dr Helmut Kohl, but late yesterday it was still not clear whether the Chancellor would receive him in view of the affair.

The dead man, a former boxer, crossed into East Germany with his wife to drive to a boxers' reunion in West Berlin. Some 50 miles inside the frontier he met the husband of a cousin at a motorway rest-stop and gave him a box of sweets as a gift from the Hamburg sports

challenge to reformers

Tanzania wants a year to clear up corruption

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Tanzania intends to follow up its recent nationwide campaign against corruption and black marketeering, which has now produced about 500 arrests, with a new law requiring all Tanzanians to have "gainful occupations".

Mr Edward Sokoine, the Prime Minister, announced this at a rally attended by 50,000 people in Dodoma, central Tanzania, when he asked the nation to give him a year to clear up "bad elements" in the Government and restore the country's self-respect.

The campaign against black marketeers, smugglers and hoarders has been producing shortages of many items which for long have been obtainable only on the free - or black - market.

Accused absent at Seveso trial

Monza (Reuters) - A lawyer yesterday described as a disgrace the absence of five senior company officials charged with responsibility for the 1976 Seveso pollution disaster when their trial opened here in Italy.

Four hours after the trial began, the judge granted an adjournment until May 11 at the request of lawyers for both the north Italian town of Seveso and the Swiss owners of the chemical plant in which an explosion caused the calamity.

Lawyers for the five defendants said their clients had chosen to exercise their right not to attend.

The blast contained about 4,500 acres with highly toxic dioxin, necessitating mass evacuation, killing animals and causing an outbreak of the skin rash chloracne.

About 200 people including the Mayor of Seveso told the court they were seeking compensation.

A lawyer representing former workers at the factory told reporters its owners, Givaudan, a subsidiary of the Swiss multinational chemicals company Hoffman-La Roche, asked for the delay to examine their demands, while lawyers for Seveso commune wanted time to negotiate with Givaudan for a financial settlement.

A lawyer representing 23 children whom he described as still suffering from chloracne as a result of the pollution said: "It is a disgrace that the accused are not here".

The accused are charged with responsibility for disaster, failure to provide adequate safety measures, and causing injury.

They are Guy Waldvogel, the former factory chairman, Hermann von Zwehl, the managing director, Giovanni Radice, the technical director, Fritz Moeri, the plant designer, and Jörg Anton Sambeth, the technical director.

Left-wing guerrillas killed a sixth defendant, Paolo Paoletti, the production manager.

Several West European Governments have been demanding to know where the dioxin waste from Seveso has been dumped since 41 containers of the waste were removed from Italy by lorry last September and their whereabouts became a mystery.

Givaudan has paid 103,000 lire (£45m) to the Lombardy region, and separate sums to about 23,000 individuals and the nearby communes of Meda, Cesano Maderno and Desio, but has not reached a settlement with Seveso.

Of the defendants, only Signor Radice is Italian. Mr Waldvogel and Mr Moeri are Swiss. Herr von Zwehl and Herr Sambeth are West German.

In Paris yesterday, police reported an attempted bomb attack on an office belonging to Hoffman-La Roche. They said the bomb, which was defused, was probably linked to the controversial disappearance of 41 containers of toxic waste from Seveso.

Swedish protest starts UN leader

From Christopher Mosey
Stockholm

Peace activists attempted to disrupt a state visit to Sweden yesterday by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, using the occasion to draw attention to their country's arms exports to the Third World.

Demonstrators placed a barricade of cardboard boxes across the doorway of the main government administration building as the Secretary-General was about to enter, accompanied by Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister, for a press conference. Each box was labelled with the name of a country receiving Swedish arms.

A security man kicked the boxes away and started Señor Pérez de Cuellar was only slightly delayed.

The activists distributed leaflets calling for an end of arms exports to Indonesia and claimed the Swedish weapons had been used to help kill a third of the 700,000 inhabitants of East Timor, which Indonesia had occupied in defiance of a UN resolution.

Tanzania wants a year to clear up corruption

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Many readers have closed their shops, fearing that they will be accused of hoarding or other malpractices. But they have now been ordered to reopen them by today or lose their trading licences.

The Prime Minister's Office has now ordered local officials not to round up people who are found with small quantities of scarce items, some people had been arrested for having two tubes of toothpaste in their houses.

Many Asian traders are among those arrested, along with local officials who are alleged to have failed to take action against hoarders. Some policemen and soldiers have been arrested for demanding bribes from traders.

Chay Jui 135

10,000 Israelis demonstrate against Nablus expansion

From Christopher Walker, Nablus

A cluster of 15 inhospitable mobile homes perched precariously on top of Mount Gerizim overlooking the occupied Palestinian town of Nablus became the focus yesterday of one of the largest demonstrations seen in the West Bank against the Begin Government's expansionist settlement drive.

About 10,000 Israeli protesters made their way by coach, car and on foot up the long winding road to the spot which is now known as "Upper Nablus" and is eventually intended to be a Jewish suburb which will house some 4,000 Israelis in new homes built strategically overlooking the 80,000 Nablus Arabs.

The Government's decision to reinforce the symbolism of the ceremony by staging it on the thirty-fifth anniversary of Israel's independence added to the protesters' anger. Many claimed it was a provocative play designed to give the impression of national consent for a type of settlement that many Israelis fiercely oppose.

"I believe that we have as much right to be here as in Tel Aviv, but I do not think we are going to get peace if we deliberately choose to live right among the local Arabs," explained one demonstrator, uncomfortably wrapped in plastic sheeting against the swirling rain. "This settlement is a real obstacle to me or my children ever living without war."

Flapping in the wind yesterday on top of the 800 yard high



Bomb blast in Beirut: A Lebanese policeman (left) standing guard, smoke billowing from the American Embassy and from burning cars, and (right) rescue vehicles.

How ambassador survived explosion

Beirut (AP and Reuters) - Mr Robert Dillon, the American Ambassador here, who was trapped in the rubble of an explosion that wrecked his embassy, said: "We have got to continue the peace effort."

He told reporters outside the embassy's shattered facade: "The negotiations will go ahead. It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything. The United States mission will continue."

Mr Dillon, who has been in Lebanon for more than two years, said he was standing up, a telephone receiver in one hand and a T-shirt in another, when the blast occurred shortly after 1pm (12pm BST).

Mr Dillon said he had "no idea" who was responsible for the attack, but said it appeared that it may have been a car bomb that "may have crashed through a barricade."

Mr Ryan Crocker, the embassy's First Secretary whose office at the side of the building looks over the sea, said: "The initial impression was not of noise - but a burst of light, smoke and objects flying through the air."

He had a few cuts, was rushed in a bulletproof limousine escorted by police to his residence in the suburbs, but returned to the embassy later in the afternoon to inspect the damage.

Mr Dillon, a Middle East specialist said both President Gemayel and Mr Shafik Wazzan, the Prime Minister, contacted him to express condolences, at the rear of the embassy.

In a forceful speech which concentrated entirely on the Middle East issues, he acknowledged that the Palestine Liberation Organization had shown in the past few days why so many people doubted its ability to negotiate for peace.

Blast fails to deter Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

President Reagan declared yesterday that the car bomb explosion outside the American Embassy in Beirut would not deter the US from its goals of peace in the region.

In a special statement during a White House ceremony at which he presented prizes to Peace Corps volunteers, the President described the bombing as "a cowardly act".

He said he had instructed Mr Philip Habib, his two special envoys to the Middle East, to press ahead with negotiations for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The President said the United States remained committed to the recovery by the Lebanese Government of full sovereignty throughout all its territory.

"The people of Lebanon must be given the chance to resume their efforts to lead a normal life free from violence and without the presence of unauthorized foreign forces on their soil. And to this noble end I rededicate the efforts of the United States."

Shortly before the President made his statement he had received a telephone call from President Amin Gemayel in which the Lebanese leader expressed his regret for the incident.

He also expressed his firm determination to persevere in the search for peace in the middle east.

Other people reacted differently. An American Marine

Heroism and tears among the scenes of horror

Continued from page 1

which a team of young Lebanese Red Cross men and women were shovelling onto stretchers. One girl in blood-stained white overalls was moving through the still-smoking visa section with a bucket.

No-one in that part of the building appeared to have survived, for the men and women, some of them stripped half-naked by the force of the explosion.

Infinitely more terrible was the scene we were to witness a few seconds later. For a slight breeze blew in from the sea and moved the curtains of smoke in front of the Embassy to reveal that seven entire storeys at the front of the building had pancaked down on top of each other and were now suspended perilously over the roadway.

And there, hanging upside down from a fourth floor, his legs helplessly crushed by the concrete above him, hung the body of a middle-aged man in a brown suit, his arms hanging listlessly downwards, an ant-track of blood running down the floors beneath him.

Perhaps such dreadful things inspire courage. For one of the French soldiers threw his beret to the ground and clambered into the burning Embassy. We saw him later, inching his way along a knifedge of broken concrete 40 feet up the ruins and scrambling into a black hole in the pancaked floors to look for survivors.

Other people reacted differently. An American Marine

slightly hurt but alive, from the building.

The killers may have been trying to murder Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's chief envoy, but he was, as usual in Beirut, at President Amin Gemayel's palace at Baabda. Mr Robert Dillon, the tall, white-haired Ambassador, had been in his office when the bomb exploded and was trapped in heaps of rubble when the floor collapsed.

But he was rescued by his colleagues and was able to return to the Embassy four hours later and tell journalists that America had "got to continue her peace efforts in the Middle East."

"The negotiations will go ahead," he said. "It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything - the US mission will continue."

Mr Dillon later suggested that the bomb might have been brought into the Embassy driveway by a motorist who could have crashed through the security barricade. However, the sad truth is that security was very lax around the American compound and Lebanese sentry boxes - including those beside the driveway - were often unmanned. The Lebanese Army probably realised this, for later in the afternoon they began to threaten foreign correspondents at the scene, tearing film out of cameras and - in one case - hitting a journalist in the face with a rifle butt. Another Lebanese soldier threatened to hit a US Marine press officer.

Reunited: Mr Draper finds his wife unharmed

All-church summit plea by Runcie

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

Wellington - The Archbishop of Canterbury, who is visiting New Zealand, is seeking a peace summit of international religious leaders, our correspondent writes.

Dr Runcie said in Christchurch yesterday that this was one way the Anglican Church could work against the nuclear threat and he hoped that the Pope, the Patriarch of Moscow and representatives of the World Council of Churches would attend.

Despite the prospect that their claims could bankrupt the EEC, seven of the 10 ministers pressed for increases over and above the 4.2 per cent average being proposed by the Commission.

This sobering calculation was made in a paper issued yesterday by the European Commission as agriculture ministers began a meeting in Luxembourg to fix EEC farm price increases for the year ahead.

The Commission admits in its paper that the calculations made when the farm price proposals were drawn up last December were wrong on two points. First, it estimated that the average increase in farming wages would be lower than the 9

Farm demand may bankrupt EEC

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

EEC farmers this year have already asked the Community for 35 per cent more money than they did in the same period last year. This means that the Community could all but have exhausted its available money by December.

This sobering calculation was made in a paper issued yesterday by the European Commission as agriculture ministers began a meeting in Luxembourg to fix EEC farm price increases for the year ahead.

Despite the prospect that their claims could bankrupt the EEC, seven of the 10 ministers pressed for increases over and above the 4.2 per cent average being proposed by the Commission.

West Germany and The Netherlands, alone, were prepared to accept the proposals as they stood. Only Mr Peter Walker, the British minister, argued that the new estimates showed there had to be a reduction in the suggested increases.

The Commission admits in its paper that the calculations made when the farm price proposals were drawn up last December were wrong on two points. First, it estimated that the average increase in farming wages would be lower than the 9

Running of America kept in the family

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

The Reagan Administration critics are seeking to find out how the children and other relatives of some senior Administration officials have got well-paid jobs with the Federal Government for which they appear to have no special qualifications.

Most have been taken on by the United States Information Agency, which is responsible for putting out information about American policy and culture overseas.

Since President Reagan has taken on at least 150 political appointees, many of whom have been given plum posts in London and Paris.

Among those who have benefited from the agency's liberal hiring policy are the sons and daughters of Mr William Clark, the National

Spokesman for the agency insisted the appointees were all qualified for their positions.

As is the way with Washington, this mini-scandal has somewhat inevitably been dubbed "Kiddergate."

In addition, refinancing and high interest rates pose the threat of serious financial difficulties for the country's power companies unless the requirements contained in existing national energy plan are revised downwards.

Sources pointed out that finance costs in some companies are now in the neighbourhood of 35 per cent, and a business failure of big power companies "could bring the whole economy tumbling down."

At the same time there is increasing political opposition to the use of nuclear power.

However, informed sources indicated other compelling reasons for the Government's decision to scale down its nuclear power plans which Señora Mestre did not mention.

They are both economic and political. In the first place, the current expansion of Spanish energy facilities was financed to a considerable extent with loans to power companies from

Army gets its way in Thai election

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The general election in Thailand yesterday appears to have produced the result wanted by the Army, which was largely responsible for the election being called two months early.

Although many votes are still uncounted it appears likely that, as predicted, no party has won a majority, and consequently the next government will be an other coalition.

Senator Edward Zorinsky, a member of the Senate foreign relations committee, has written to Mr Wick demanding to know whether the appointments "violate the letter or the spirit of any anti-nepotism laws or regulations."

A spokesman for the agency insisted the appointees were all qualified for their positions.

As is the way with Washington, this mini-scandal has somewhat inevitably been dubbed "Kiddergate."

Seven hours after counting began six different parties had won seats, indicating that the new Parliament, like the last, Independents appeared to be

doing badly. There are 324 seats to be filled.

Sitting members were holding their seats in almost all these results. The Army would see the emergence of a civilian government with a workable majority in Parliament as a threat.

Many national figures feared that such a result might have prompted the military to overthrow the government by force. One of those who said he "hoped and prayed" he would not win because of that danger, is Mr Kukrit Pramoj, a former Prime Minister and leader of the Social Action Party.

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LONDON - NEW YORK - GENEVA
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10,000 Israelis demonstrate against Nablus expansion

Palermo (Reuters) - Paramilitary police burst into a luxurious seafood villa near here and arrested Giovanni 'Lo Verde', aged 44, one of Sicily's most wanted alleged Mafia bosses.

He had been sought since escaping in a blaze of gunfire during a raid on a gang stronghold in October 1981.

Japanese strike

Tokyo (Reuters) - Dockworkers launched a 24-hour strike at Japan's ports to back demands for job security threatened by increasing containerization. Walkouts are also planned at nine container berths for five days from today and three days from April 26.

More flogged

Karachi (Reuters) - Pakistani jailers flogged 132 more Muslim militants for taking part in religious violence here.

Spain will cut back on nuclear power plants

From Harry Deebles, Madrid

Spain will reduce its commitment to nuclear power and possibly abandon the construction of some nuclear plants which are already being built, according to Señora Carmen Mestre, the Director-General of Energy.

Addressing a symposium at the Ministry of Industry and Energy, Señora Mestre emphasized the desirability of waiting for the development of absolute guarantees of safety nuclear power stations.

However, informed sources indicated other compelling reasons for the Government's decision to scale down its nuclear power plans which Señora Mestre did not mention.

They are both economic and political. In the first place, the current expansion of Spanish energy facilities was financed to a considerable extent with loans to power companies from

foreign power plants which are

increasing political opposition to the use of nuclear power.

This is reflected in work stoppages and, in some cases, deliberate destruction, as well as to visit the farm during the worst of the crisis, despite his express plea.

The researchers also found that the relatively high mortality rate did not necessarily diminish even where there were reasonably high standards of public hygiene such as sewerage and good water supply.

FASHION by Suzy Menkes



LADIES AND GENTLEMAN.

I am proud and honoured to receive this Oscar from you tonight. It is the first time in 54 years of the Academy Awards that a Raincoat has been singled out by the Motion Picture Industry – even though it has featured heavily in the history of Hollywood. I think especially of those very wonderful performers Greta Garbo and Humphrey Bogart, both sadly no longer with us. I salute the style of that great lady Lauren Bacall. I should also like to honour the memory

of the legendary Marlene Dietrich in her man's trench coat and to remind you all of that successful long-running cinematic series *Sex Appeal in the Rain*, starring Sophia Loren getting wet.

A raincoat is only as good as its producers, and I share the glory of this Oscar with Aquascutum and Burberry who have given me so much support over the years. I was especially pleased to see the award for Best Colour Range go

to Aquascutum for its newly refurbished mackintosh department in Regent Street.

To my distributors, I also express my gratitude, especially to Harrods, who have included so many different styles, to Simpsons for elegance and variety, to Harvey Nichols for designer collections, and to Fenwick who do so much at popular prices for young people.

Finally, I should like to thank the one thing that has

made this award possible. The raincoat, as you know, is a British success story. And we in Britain have something back home that you in Los Angeles saw for the first time during the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month.

Ladies and Gentleman, I accept this Oscar on behalf of the British Rain that has fallen continuously on my country for the past month, thus ensuring me a long successful run.

Starring in the rain



BEST ALL ROUND PERFORMER: The Classic Trench (right), starring Marlene Dietrich, Greta Garbo, Humphrey Bogart, Marilyn Monroe, Jeanne Moreau and the entire population of Japan. Produced in lightweight lined cotton, tan only, sizes 38in-44in, £185 from 92 Department at Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London, W1. Felt hat by Bernards. Sheer tights from Elbec. Saito court shoes from Freemans Mail Order.

NOMINATIONS: Classic Burberry with distinctive check lining at £175. Marks & Spencer's double breasted raincoat with small check lining, in stone and light brown, £25. Dammasc's trench from Fenwick, £27. Big nylon foldaway trench coat £19.99 from Flap, 125 Long Acre, Covent Garden, WC2.



BEST SUPPORTING ROLE: Black Cire (above), starring Lauren Bacall and Juliette Greco, shot mainly on location on the Left Bank in Paris, with brief flashes of shiny PVC in swinging London in the 1960s. Produced in rubberized cotton in black only, four basic styles, single and double breasted, sizes to order £65 from Weather Vain, 283 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Surrey. Perspex and leather waist-cincher £22.50 by Nancy Fisher from String Cooper. White circular skirt £24.99 by Strawberry Studio. White sweetheart sweater £22.95 from Fenwick.

NOMINATIONS: Original 1960s PVC from Camden Lock and Kensington Market. Sweet Charity's black plastic mini mac £19.50 from First Floor, Kensington Market, High Street, Kensington, W8, p 4 p 22.00. String Cooper's shiny grey three-quarter mac £39.99 from 94 New Bond Street. Millets' range of plastic and rubberized macs and jackets from £22.95.



BEST SEX APPEAL: The White Raincoat (far right), starring Sophia Loren, Gina Lollobrigida, all cinema journalists and Walls Corsetti salesman. A sultry tale of passion in Italy in the 1950s, recently released. Produced by Michael Morsell with eyelet trim and showerproof leather collar £139 from Weathercoats department at Harrods, also in khaki and brown. Coat £139 from Fenwick. Gloves by Dent-Fowles. Headscarf £2.95 from Fenwick.

NOMINATIONS: Femina's £29 with stand or turn-down collar. Anna Maria Beretta's white plastic and towelling cape for Remosport, £127 from Harvey Nichols. Fir-Paire's clean and simple styling from a wide range at Selfridges, Oxford Street.

FASHION EDITOR'S COMMENT

Are the TV companies pulling the woolies over our eyes? The only radical change that I can see over my children's shoulders in the morning is that Nick Owen's sweater has taken over from Frost's business suit. Any other alterations to morning television are purely cosmetic.

The fuss over Selina's poached egg eyes, Frank Bough's rumpled jumpers and Angela's headmistress hairstyle has been greeted by the famous Five as signs of trivial media reaction and poor public taste. I do not dismiss so lightly the fact that the biggest star of breakfast time television has been the sweater. For who still believes that what you wear is not an important signal (for both sexes) of who you are, what group you identify with or which image you are aiming for?

The fashion catchphrase of the last decade has been that "anything goes", and it is true that the sartorial standards which equated clothes with status have been unpicked. But dress is still an identifiable badge of class, career, age, or even regional groupings, and in the current fashion anarchy, the desire to identify is stronger than ever.

The cult of Preppy clothes in America and the Sloane Ranger fragmentation that whatever your

affection of green wellies and buckles are used as secret weapons in a guerrilla war of class, in which the rules are changed as soon as the masses discover what the élite are wearing.

In Germany, the political fight between the Greens and the Christian Democrats is being acted out in costumes so corry they look like a caricature: long hair, beards and blue denim against sober suits, collars and ties.

The Greenwich Common women dress in a parody of protest style, although my anti-fashion sister will not thank me for pointing to the wellies and cloaks, the leg warmers and hand knits, the badge-decorated dungarees and the ubiquitous woolly hat. (It has become such a potent peace symbol that the local residents refuse to wear it lest they should be identified with the invaders).

There was an earlier peace style of duffels and corduroys, as worn by readers of the *New Statesman* and still worn by old statesmen like Michael Foot. The fashion exhibition at the Brighton Museum actually has the CND uniform of dark duffel coat and badge on display.

Now fashion has become so

cause you dress for it. Earth mothers and middle aged hippies still cling to floral prints and ethnic accessories (Kelim shoulder bags, straw baskets, long woolly scarves and shawls). The unemployable are drawn to the smart suit, dad's badge of office life. The uniformed classes wear their authority off-duty with knife creases down their terylene slacks. Army wives identify in elbow-patched sweaters, a pastiche of the paras.

In this kaleidoscope of style, those in the know recognize it when they see it. (Thus the Camden Palace follows the tradition of all fashionable nightspots by insisting on a certain standard of dress, although they are smart enough to make their own valuation and not get hoist by a collar and tie).

The only obvious mainstream movement of the last decade has been away from formal clothes and towards sportswear (although I believe that this will now begin to go in reverse). Given that casual wear is now king, it was very unwise of TV am to think that presenting a smart face to the walking world would endear them to the viewing public. So on with the sweaters – and on with the show.



Hepworths: after Next for women, a First for men

Can Terence Conran do a Next on Hepworths itself? The Next fashion chain sprung fully clothed – under the design inspiration of Conran – from the remains of 78 Kendalls stores 18 months ago when they were bought by Hepworths. Now Next has a £40m turnover, more than 100 branches and an image of dynamism in coordinating women's wear.

The staid Hepworths men's stores took up the challenge last week with a show that had everything from a camped-up film producer to a rag week student wearing nothing but a college scarf. (He was soon dressed from stock.)

More important, Hepworths in Regent Street, along with 150 of the 288 high street stores, has had a face-lift. A video film of a week in the life of a team of British workmen, showed us how a shop can be re-fitted at high speed with elegant grey-felt walls decorated with burgundy carriage lines (just coincidentally the Conran-designed colour scheme at Next).

Blouson jacket £24.99, sweater and shorts both £29.99 from HARRY KERR.

Terence Conran himself, wearing a pink tie and an enigmatic smile, told me that Next was the model for the new Hepworths, although things tend to move at a slower pace in the menswear business.

The Hepworths image has been honest, solid and traditional," says Bob Russell, managing director of Hepworths (Retail) Ltd. "We have been more than a year planning its re-birth and taking a fresh look at men's clothes."

The new shop, says Mr Russell, are designed in colour scheme and layout to appeal to the female shopper and the coordination of the clothes is also aimed at the sharper fashion eye of wives and girl friends. "We don't underestimate the importance of the woman who visits the store during the week and comes back at the weekend bringing her man."

Mr Russell speaks reverently of the "soft statement" wall panels showing coordinated outfit, with rails of clothes aimed at the 24 to 45 age group (the original target of Next, although their customers now tend to be younger).

The real change of image for Hepworths lies in the clothes, which are still fairly middle-of-the-road in style and colour but now concentrate more strongly on sportswear, with casual shirts, blousons and unstructured jackets edging out the formal suits.

Hepworths have been known for over a century for their suits. Now 50 per cent of the merchandise is in casual wear with every accessory from underpants to umbrellas on sale, alongside the more formal coats and raincoats.

But the real news, which is sending a frisson of fear through the rest of menswear retailing, is that Hepworths have launched a new own label brand of casual wear called First. Whatever Next?

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THE ARTS

Television
Fearful
crime

Burglary pays. Legitimate businesses may ponder tomorrow's uncertainties, but burglary booms, with nearly two break-ins a minute. Burglars can afford to be cocky about it: there is only one conviction for about every 90 burglaries.

Sir Robert Mark, former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, says the public fears burglary more than any other crime but is largely unaware of the situation. "There is a general, widespread and entirely mistaken conception that the police and courts are an adequate and effective deterrence to burglary. It just simply isn't true."

Granada's *World in Action* is showing two programmes, *Offence Against the Person*, to make us more aware, in the first, last night. Mr Stanley Bailey, Newcastle's Chief Constable, whose patch was visited to demonstrate Sir Robert's points, said that the worst feature of the boom was the fear. People did not go out for fear of being burgled.

In Tyneside, one house in four is burgled every other year. Police were shown in conscientious but implicitly vain investigation. A fingerprint man said he expected to be dusting around 20 houses on a normal Sunday. Victims mourned not just material losses but the feeling of violation which often affects nervous and physical health. An Oxford criminologist, Mr Michael Maguire, without underestimating the problem, said that the fear of the crime was often based on a

Britain now has 140 voluntary groups trying to assist victims whose sense of security is shattered. And it is not just fat cats who get burgled: the poorer districts of the inner cities are the worst affected. Police are not convinced that the consequent boom in security systems does much to deter serious burglars.

By no means all are professional in the traditional sense. Seventy per cent are under 21; 40 per cent under 17. Mr William Whitelaw appeared briefly to speak of the Home Office's publicity campaign, the largest ever, against the crime. Next week we are to hear of the changes in police tactics which are being considered. That should provide another good reason for staying in.

On BBC 2 Horizon showed an American-produced dramatized account of the official inquiry into the Three Mile Island nuclear power accident in 1979, somewhat technical but clear enough in its message: the operators could not tell what was happening; the manufacturers got it wrong; the government body, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, reacted with a whole set of wrong assumptions.

It will be 1985 before decontamination is complete. It will have cost \$1 billion, twice the original estimate. Despite inquiry and expense, the programme concluded that, unless the system governing nuclear power changes, more Three Mile Islands are inevitable. Altogether a chilling start to the week.

Dennis Hackett

Concert

Philharmonia /
Haitink
Festival Hall/Radio 3

I am sure we have not heard the last of Brahms's *German Requiem* in this, the 150th anniversary year of his birth, but it will be hard for anyone else to match the fullness and abundance of Sunday night's performance under Bernard Haitink. Here was the piece pulled out of comfortable Protestant gloom and made to sit up. But it was not an unsuitably operatic performance; rather the effect was of a seven-movement symphony, with a feeling for large-scale structure as unerring as was shown before the interval in Haydn's "Oxford" Symphony.

It seemed, too, that Mr Haitink was merely providing the opportunity for the work to say as much as it can as decisively as possible, though reflection would indicate what care he, the Philharmonia and the Philharmonia Chorus had put into tiny details of newly gauged sonority, into building slow crescendos like great sturdy waves, and above all into reconsidering the phrasing so that answer did not come too pat upon question. It was indeed an intelligent as well as a moving performance.

Paul Griffiths

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The Hague School
Royal AcademyAlexander Mann
Fine Art SocietyWilliam Henry Yule
Pym's Gallery

The thing about art history is that, however much you know in theory, there are always gaps to be filled in by direct reference to the art that the history is supposed to be all about. And the missing pieces of the jigsaw puzzle frequently prove not quite to fit where and in the way that they are supposed to. Nobody and nothing can be safely dismissed – not, at any rate, until we have had a proper look at it.

Which is where exhibitions like The Hague School, at the Royal Academy until July 10, come in. You might be forgiven a certain vagueness about even which century the artists in question belong to, so the show's subtle obliquely fills in the necessary detail: "Dutch Masters of the Nineteenth Century". But, beyond that, who are they and what does their painting look like? Puzzling questions indeed, today, in 1983. But a century ago, we would probably have had little difficulty in answering them. For then the vogue for Holland was in full swing. Painters from all over the world flocked to Holland to paint the local sites and costumes and customs as Max Liebermann wrote in 1901, "Any young man of any energy made the pilgrimage to Holland, bringing back with him a wooden back, a white cap and a long clay pipe; the Dutch window with its little leaded lights became the fashion". And the fashion was initiated by the spectacular impact contemporary Dutch artists were making on the international art scene.

Then, names like Mauve, Israels and the brothers Maris would have been very familiar to British art lovers. Books were published in English about them and their work, and poking around in provincial art collections or the basement of the National Gallery will soon uncover excellent examples, probably hard by the paintings of lesser members of the Barbizon School who were in many respects their French equivalents. They painted mostly landscape and genre pictures – landscapes mirroring with infinite variation the grey skies and flat green pastures of Holland, interiors of humble and sedentary peasant life.

The style quiet and unassertive; the painters saw themselves principally as realists, showing life and landscape as they really were. And so successful were they, for their time, that the shock of the new in their work sent waves of excited response throughout Europe and even across the Atlantic.

Renewing acquaintance is quite a comfortable experience.

You can see exactly where they come from and exactly where they lead. Three years ago an important show emphasized



this aspect, even in its title,

Mondriaan and the Hague School; it toured Manchester, Southampton, Birmingham and Norwich, but never came to London. For those who saw it, the implication was plain enough: the Hague School mattered because, improbably, senior artists in Mondrian's family belonged to it and he himself began his long pilgrimage to abstraction right there. In the present show we end up with half a dozen very early Mondriana – and it must be said that seldom can the beginnings of a great artist have been quite so unprepossessing as these unadvised daubs, with a noticeable sense of form only just tentatively emerging in what one imagines to be the latest. We are also reminded, for good measure, that Van Gogh's beginnings were very much in the heart of the Hague School.

But, to be worthwhile to

more than a tiny minority of specialists, an exhibition has to do more than merely fill in a few dark areas of history. And here the present show triumphantly succeeds. Quite irrespective of where, if anywhere, their work led, these nineteenth-century Dutch painters are eminently worth rediscovering just on their own merits. They do not have the kind of immediate, dramatic impact which floors you as you enter the first gallery, but they exert a slow-growing but intense fascination as you look leisurely round. You can well appreciate why Mauve had such a high reputation in his own time as a landscape artist and recorder of peasant lives and labours: he paints farm animals with full sympathy and understanding, and has a special feeling for peasants bent under lowering skies, but also, as *Riders on the Beach at Scheveningen* demonstrates, he can respond with a more worldly sparkle when the occasion seems right.

You can also begin to tell the

three Marises apart, and note particularly how Maris moved gradually away from realism towards a Symbolic style which rather recalls some Scottish contemporaries. You can make discoveries of enchanting individual pictures, like Roelofs' *The Rainbow*, with its stunning evocation of late sunshining after rain, or Gabriel's *Train in Landscape*, with its vivid creation of almost limitless-seeming space. And you can discover a source of continuing delight in the work of Weissenbruch, represented by 23 landscapes of such consistently high quality and such astonishing feeling for colour and bizarre but effective composition that one wonders why he is not better known, however deep the neglect into which the school in general has fallen. No doubt the Hague School will still not be to everybody's taste – but then what is? For those on the right wavelength the show will be a revelation indeed.

While we are in the business

of rediscovery – and in very

much the right period – there

are two more shows of consider-

able interest on in London at the moment, devoted to a couple of the more thoroughly forgotten Scottish artists from the latter end of the nineteenth century. Alexander Mann (1853-1908) and William James Yule (1867-1900). And if you have never heard of either of them, it is even more understandable than a measure of vagueness about the Hague School, since both have been completely ignored since their deaths. Which is, in both cases, much too long.

Alexander Mann, whose

work is showing at the Fine Art

Society until May 6, lived

longer and was the more

accomplished of the two, though also the more difficult to pin down as an artistic personality. He was born in Glasgow, studied in Paris and absorbed

all the regular influences of the

time, from Bastien-Lepage's

crisp and chilly pictures of

French peasant life to the proto-

Impressionists of the Hague

School and the oriental leanings

of Whistler and his group. He

seems to have had private

means, travelled a lot and,

though he exhibited widely,

he never had to push his work in a

fully professional fashion. Pro-

fessional in his attitude to

painting he decided was,

however, and, in whatever style

he chose to paint, he seems to

have achieved complete pro-

iciency. There are in this show

one or two dull pictures, but

nothing which is not wonderfully

accomplished, even when, in

later days, he drifts rather

alarmingly over into Symbolist

fantasy. The connecting links

between his various styles and

phases are not very strong or

evident, but an artist who can

well justify the exhibition of 72

paintings at once without

boring or sating us does not

deserve 80 years of total neglect.

William Henry Yule died at

the age of 33, and was obviously

far less accomplished as an artist than Mann. Perhaps for this very

reason, he seems much more

coherent and consistent, if

never quite so showily effective.

His work appears, from the

examples on view at Pym's

Gallery in Motcomb Street until

May 14, to hover, as far as the

draughtsmanship is concerned,

between the two poles of

Whistler and Phil May: the

many pencil and pen sketches

show him to have been a fresh,

precise and sometimes humor-

ous observer of men and

manners, with a cheeky feeling

for the atmosphere of city

streets. His paintings, naturally,

favoured Whistler rather more, as

in the charming childhood

portrait of *Elise*, which, as the

catalogue nicely remarks, sug-

gests Velasquez filtered through

Whistler.

A more worldly

sparkle, on the right

occasion, in

Mauve's Riders on

the Beach at Scheveningen; and

detail from Yule's

Elise, "Velasquez

filtered through

Whistler".

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Elise, "Velasquez

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Whistler".

Theatre

Cynical musings

The death of Tennessee Williams leaves Sam Shepherd perhaps the leading active American playwright, since Arthur Miller and Edward Albee have for some years now rested on the laurels garnered by their earlier plays. Mr Shepherd's latest work, *Fool for Love*, unveiled by the Magic Theater in San Francisco, gives one pause to reflect upon the state of contemporary American drama, particularly in the West and Middle West.

This impressive production offers four accomplished actors almost perfectly cast, and Mr Shepherd has directed his play himself with a technical virtuosity no doubt rooted in his own considerable experience as an actor. Andy Stuckin has designed a cheap, bare western motel room, unwelcoming enough to curdle the blood, and Ardyse L. Golden has provided costumes so naturalistic their wearers appear to have had them on for weeks or even months.

The electric tension between May and Eddie (Kathy Baker and Ed Harris; both of them outstanding, at times even brilliant) evokes two horse-shoe magnets: they can attract irresistibly or, with poles reversed, irresistibly repel. They refer to a sexual bond of some years' standing, but over that relationship hangs an evident threatening, perhaps horrible, shadow. Lovers? Siblings? Mr Shepherd tantalizes us. Downstage left, a repulsive old man (Will Marchetti) guzzles straight cheap bourbon, acting as a sort of Far-West Greek chorus. The arrival of May's date, Martin (Dennis Lindlow), provides the time which finally ignites the explosion.

Mr Shepherd's sure sense of theatricality, to judge by this play, considerably exceeds his intellectual and poetic capability for transmuting such sombre material into art. He has an exceptional, finely attuned ear, but he fails to make May and Eddie – both of them obviously wretchedly unhappy.

Paul Moor

Recital

Fou Ts'ong

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Faced with the need to separate the funeral march movement in Chopin's B flat minor Sonata, Op. 35, from the ceremonial associations that nowadays cling to it, Fou Ts'ong made sure that the character of the other movements related closely to it in his solo programme on Sunday. He gave grandeur to the sonata's opening movement, perhaps by this playfully to harsh economic reality and abandonment of the repertory system – a body-blow to decentralized theatre in this country – but both San Francisco and Berkeley continue to fare much better. The American Conservatory Theatre's repertory this season has thus far given us outstanding productions of *The Chalk Garden*, *Uncle Vanya* and *Look*, and the Berkeley Repertory Company has especially distinguished itself with the Brecht-Weill *Happy End* and *The Glass Menagerie*.



Joining forces

Alan Lee Williams, director-general of the English-Speaking Union, is to take leave when the general election comes to work as *chef de cabinet* for Dr David Owen. Williams, who lost his seat as Labour MP for Hornchurch in 1979, was closer in Parliament to Denis Healey - whose parliamentary private secretary he was for a time - than to Owen though he and Owen reviewed each other's books on defence matters in mutually ecstatic terms before joining forces in the Manifesto Group. Williams says he has no immediate ambition to return to the hustings on his own account, though he does not rule it out "eventually".

Out of favour

Some indication of the state of preparedness for a general election at the various party headquarters may be drawn from John Brennan's experience trying to get party rosettes to illustrate the cover of his forthcoming book, *The Political Pound*. The Tories had plenty in stock, 90p each. The Liberals would have to order specially: only 35p each but 25 minimum. The SDP had none, did not know when they would be getting them, or how much they would cost. Labour did not know if they would be having any, but suggested: "Try Arsenal football ground. Their colours are the same."

Wendy Perrott writes from Katmandu to tell me that the Mount Annupuri Hotel in Pokhara, West Nepal, advertises itself as "The Last Resort for Travellers".

Promissory note

When Sir Peter Wakefield retired last year as British Ambassador to Belgium he asked for a concert featuring Barry Tuckwell as his farewell present. Embassy staff happily chipped in and the Australian horn player was flown out to Brussels. Tomorrow Tuckwell repays the compliment by playing at a fund-raising concert at the Barbican for the National Arts Collection Fund. The director of the fund is Sir Peter Wakefield.

Watch your step

At an earnest meeting yesterday to discuss the problems of step-parents, someone asked whether there was any recommended reading on the subject. Yes indeed, was the reply: for step-mothers *The Sound of Music*, and for step-fathers *Lolita*.

BARRY FANTONI



Community spirit

Further to my competition, announced yesterday, for a more imaginative design for the European flag, I notice that British members of the European Parliament socialists group received the following guidance note about the report which proposed the adoption of the Council of Europe flag. "Nothing will be found in the report that need trouble the socialist conscience - although a red nose within the circle of gold stars would be most welcome." There is an idea for a star, though it suggests boozers rather than bureaucrats. It was a misprint of course. They really meant a red rose, the symbol of socialist parties in many European countries. I am sure we can do better than that.

Raising a storm

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has hoisted distress signals about my note on Saturday, which had it conducting a poll offering lifeboatmen the option of retirement at 50. The questionnaire, sent to all lifeboat station secretaries, co-seniors and co-seniors, is the work of a hoover who has been plaguing the RNLI with similar fabrications for a year. I am sorry to have raised a false alarm.

What is known as "the Buzby effect" is felt more and more difficult for triphones owners. Increasing numbers of birds are adopting the triphones' electronic warble as part of their repertoire of song. It started with starlings, but has now spread to song thrushes and blackbirds. Peter Slater of Sussex University used a seismograph to compare the new song song by a thrush and the sound of a triphone: frequency, modulation rate and the timing of phrases were almost indistinguishable. Birds which learnt to imitate triphones installed near the nests in which they were raised may now be teaching whole generations of Buzbys to join British Telecom's avian advertising force, with the effect that subscribers will continually be rushing to answer a PHS.

Lead: put the ban in top gear

by Des Wilson

The Government decision to accept the advice of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that lead should be phased out of petrol is very welcome. Equally important, the Government and the multi-national industries should learn the crucial lessons from this controversy.

The first is that people place a much higher priority on environmental protection than the authorities and industry realize. The Royal Commission took up the issue only because of public concern, though ministers initially treated this concern with arrogance and assumed that it would soon blow over. One of the real gains from the success of the campaign to eliminate lead from petrol is that environmental issues generally will now be placed higher on the political agenda.

The second lesson is that there are limits to the role of scientific research in policy making. It has become clear that the advice given early in 1981 by Whitehall's own Chief Medical Officer, Sir Henry Yellowlees, was prophetic - "Truly conclusive evidence may be unobtainable and it is therefore doubtful whether there is anything to be gained by deferring a decision until the results of further research become available."

The public have now demonstrated that they expect decisions to be taken on the basis of prudence, and where the evidence of risk is substantial, as in this case, they expect the necessary action and will pay the price.

That said, I do not believe the issue of lead-in-petrol is completely resolved. First,

petrol should be available by 1990 at the latest. This really will not do. Either the Royal Commission's call for "a substantially greater safety margin for the population as a whole" is justified, or it is not. If it is, then a definite and earlier date should be fixed. To parents of babies born this year and next, 1990 and the promise of greater safety for the next generation of children is hardly satisfactory.

We do not want to see the petroleum or car manufacturing industry harmed any more than is necessary to make their products pollution-free. They must be given reasonable time to make the transition. But we are concerned that they will try to create all sorts of technical and economic obstacles to early action.

Already, their view of the costs and problems involved contrasts sharply with that of the Royal Commission. The Campaign for Lead-Free Air (Clear) does not have the benefit of its opponents' technical and propaganda resources, but nevertheless believes that those costs and difficulties were exaggerated. There is no question where the Royal Commission stands: "The most practical means of eliminating lead would marginally increase overall energy demand if other factors were assumed to remain constant. But by the time the changeover takes place, any such energy penalty, besides being small in absolute terms, would be completely swamped by continuing improvements in car efficiency

and fuel economy. On a national basis it is highly improbable that removing lead would be reflected in any higher absolute expenditure and the impact on the individual motorist would be very small".

The Royal Commission recommends that ministers should call in the car manufacturing and oil industries to establish a timetable. Why cannot those whose endeavours have led to this decision also be involved? Why do these decisions always have to be left to the very people who have tried to postpone them and who, in this case, blundered in 1981 with the decision to proceed only to 0.15 grams per litre?

Third, while I accept that it makes sound sense to see a Europe-wide initiative on this issue, and ministers should seek urgently to persuade our European partners to act together, Brussels has a remarkable capacity to delay action, and we cannot abdicate responsibility for the health of our children to others. We must press urgently for EEC-concerted action; if that does not come, we must proceed without it.

The ministers concerned will no doubt say they have committed themselves and we should trust them to act. They should recall that for 18 months they rejected our every argument, often distorted the evidence to their own advantage, and persistently claimed that their own policy was correct. They should not be surprised that scepticism remains about their determination to act with resolution.

The author is chairman of Clear and of Friends of the Earth.

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The man behind the Tate's new work of art

James Stirling is an architect whose work provokes such paroxysms of fury among such a range of critics that he must undoubtedly be getting at least something right. When Roger Scruton for example used this page recently to attack modern architecture - "after CND and the Argentines, the greatest threat facing Britain today" - he claimed that Stirling's was the ample figure he had in his sights.

It was Stirling who designed the remarkable Cambridge University history library, in the eyes of right-wing Spectator readers, a far more unforgivable sin than any amount of developer's hit-and-run hocktail.

From the opposite end of the political spectrum, the monumentalism of Stirling's recent work has stirred some defenders of orthodox modernism to accuse him of "fascism". His columns, massive masonry and formal planning all struck of Speer and the Third Reich, they claim. Stirling's champions are equally given to overstatement. The American Philip Johnson has called him "the world's greatest living architect".

It has taken all of Stirling's highly developed sense of irony to survive. What other serious, 57-year-old professional would have the nerve to allow himself to be photographed for

the cover of a colour supplement building a sandcastle, kitted out with bucket, spade and knotted handkerchief? Stirling's greatest claim to attention, however, is his remarkable ability to go on inventing style after style, which legions of imitators go on struggling to reproduce years after the master has moved on to other things.

He began with a couple of essays in Brutalism, dabbed with system building, tried high tech, and is now ransacking history for inspiration. And still he gives every impression of being about to move on yet again, always well ahead of the field. He is, in short, an original; and originals are never comfortable to have around.

Today the Queen Mother unveils the foundation stone of the new Clore Gallery, being built to Stirling's design to house the Tate's Turner collection. It is his only prominent commission in London to date, occupying a conspicuous position overlooking the Thames, attached to the Tate's existing facade. And it is also one of his most significant designs, marking the coming of age of post-modern architecture in Britain.

Despite Stirling's enormous reputation overseas, measured by many commissions in West Germany,

Italy and America, he has built nothing at all at home since 1976. It is as if Graham Greene had been writing exclusively in Spanish for the past 10 years. The fact that the Tate's trustees should have chosen Stirling at all is evidence of the glimmerings of some kind of renaissance of interest in architecture here.

Especially so when Stirling's

design is viewed against the dismal stone box that houses the Tate's previous extension. In their desperation to get away from the blandness represented by that kind of approach, most of Britain's brighter architects have dabbled in sight gags and architectural one-liners to stave off the boredom. Terry Farrell's tinsel town gliter for TV-am's studios in Camden Town is typical, and attracted lots of publicity.

But Stirling will have much more impact in the long term. He is the first major architect of the 1960s to have come to terms with the historical legacy of architecture. He is unselfconscious about working with the planning principles of the past. But he is also mature enough to recognize that the heroic period of modern architecture in the 1930s is equally a part of our heritage.

The whole building is difficult

not to say prickly and cussed, not unlike Stirling himself. It demonstrates the importance in fact of the individual over the conventions of style in the most potent fashion.

Inside, the gallery space has a formality that would have gladdened the hearts of the National Gallery's trustees whose search for a "basilica" created so many problems for the entrants to the National Gallery extension competition.

The whole building is difficult not to say prickly and cussed, not unlike Stirling himself. It demonstrates the importance in fact of the individual over the conventions of style in the most potent fashion.

declaration of faith in a future Labour government.

But all the frenetic conference

activity has relegated to second place what is perhaps an even more important question: "Will the new deal actually win votes?" No serious consideration appears to have been given to the evident electoral unpopularity of an incomes policy. The Tories won handsomely in 1979 without one, and showed no interest in abandoning their reliance on widespread unemployment as the chief deterrent against wage inflation. That outlook has not seriously affected their standing in the opinion polls, yet the SDP/Liberal Alliance is making a poor showing with its policy of statutory

pay curve.

The union moguls who came to restore order at Rothesay privately admitted that they have an uphill struggle to persuade their own members, let alone the wider electorate, that an incoming Labour government would have to take a firm grip on collective bargaining.

But it is argued that a Foot-Healey cabinet would be compelled to take immediate decisions on pensions, unemployment benefit, and the pay of the armed forces, police and Civil Service. From there, it is a logical step to guidelines for pay negotiations in the private sector. This would not be wage restraint for its own sake, but to provide public service jobs for the unemployed and improve the lot of low-paid workers.

Those who stand to lose by such an altruistic policy are most likely to be workers in secure, well-paid jobs, probably working in the private sector: the very people who deserved Labour in droves at the last election.

On the other hand, many such people are now on the dole. What is not yet clear is whether their mistrust of incomes policies and top-level horse trading between the TUC and Labour governments has been overcome by the bitter experience of unemployment.

Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Geoffrey Smith

The fudge holding Labour together

There has been a new mood in the Labour Party since Bermondsey. It has been brought together by a common fear of displaying the disunity which remains as deep as ever beneath the surface. But the surface ranks have been closed.

There they were shoulder to shoulder at Darlington, even Mr Healey, even Mr Callaghan. Mr Ossie O'Brien won the by-election by presenting the less contentious face of Labour, a very invitation to unity in himself with his encyclopedic knowledge of local faces and local issues, which are so much less divisive than broader topics.

Mr Benn has been quiet. Mr Scargill has seemed less menacing since the failure of the NUM executive to force a national coal strike over the Tynwald-Lewis Merthyr mine. I suspect that this may have played a more important part than is generally appreciated in the partial recovery of Labour fortunes, which was apparent in last week's Gallup poll in *The Daily Telegraph*. At the Northfield by-election last October the twin ogres mentioned time and again on the doorstep were "Scargill and Benn" - usually in that order. At Darlington I never heard Mrs Scargill's name mentioned by a single voter. He appeared to have lost the status of a demon.

So, partly by accident and partly by design, Labour is offering a less threatening face to the public. There is an evident determination not to upset the voters this side of the election. Bermondsey stands as an awful warning of what can happen when this elementary rule of self-preservation is ignored. But for how long can this restraint last? Can even a superficial impression of unity be preserved until the votes have been cast?

When such questions have been put in the past, they have usually related to the conduct of the left. Now they relate principally to the conduct of the right. Previously the question was whether the left was prepared to put up with right-wing leadership and largely right-wing policies for the sake of winning the election. Now what is at issue is whether the right is prepared to accept the leader it does not want and a number of policies which it deplores.

The right faces a double dilemma because it does not believe that it

has either the leader or the policies best calculated to win the election. It therefore has to ask itself two questions: whether Labour's electoral fortunes would benefit more from changes in policies and leadership than it would suffer from the conflict that would be involved in bringing them about, and whether it can afford to allow a future Labour government to be hampered with the policy commitments that have been imposed by the left.

Roger Scruton

Our allies in the Warsaw Pact

A *Times* leader on March 30 pointed out that the "Brezhnev doctrine" was invoked to justify the invasion of Czechoslovakia. An alliance whose entire military history has consisted in imposing itself by force upon its constituents is not an alliance, but an instrument of coercion.

The consequences for us should not go unnoticed. The Warsaw Pact is maintained at a level of military preparedness which far surpasses anything attained by the armies of Nato. It is well equipped, massively extended, and brought under a single, and single-minded, command. There is no need for practical policy.

The trouble with that is that it would require the party to fight the election with undertakings on a major issue that were contrary both to the convictions of a number of senior Labour figures and to the majority of public opinion. That would be embarrassing during the campaign and more deeply disturbing if Labour were to form the next government. But on this thread hangs the continued impression that the party is now united.

Limited sovereignty means, in effect, the absence of sovereignty. In most matters which affect social and political identity, the economic order, the legal and institutional superstructure, foreign policy and military preparedness of the "socialist" states, no decisions can be taken by the indigenous governments. A paralysis invades the body politic, which is jerked into a semblance of life only when strings are pulled in Moscow. Limited sovereignty means no sovereignty but subject.

What the doctrine actually says is that the "socialist" states have "limited sovereignty". For in all matters which might be perceived by the Kremlin as a threat to Soviet control, the "socialist" states are subject to military coercion.

Limited sovereignty means, in effect, the absence of sovereignty. In most matters which affect social and political identity, the economic order, the legal and institutional superstructure, foreign policy and military preparedness of the "socialist" states, no decisions can be taken by the indigenous governments.

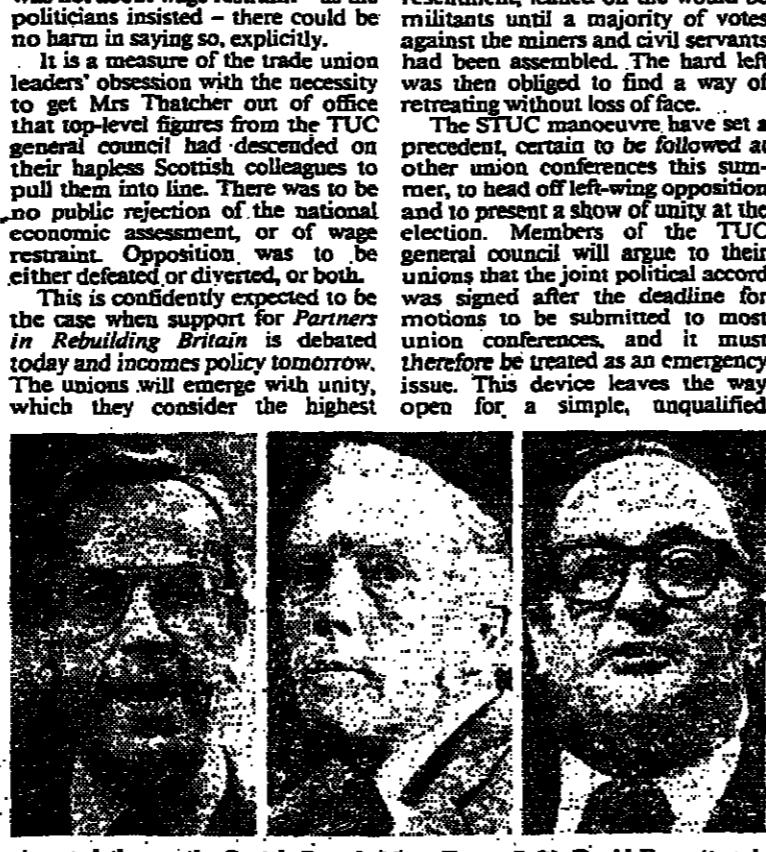
The nature of the Warsaw Pact is such, therefore, as to expose Western Europe to the risk of a rapid and irreversible defeat in the event of a "conventional" conflict. To avoid defeat we should have either to match the conventional capacity and political intransigence of the Warsaw Pact, or else to develop a strategy that would permit us to fight on far beyond the point of initial weakness. Since we cannot do the first, we must prepare for the second.

While a short combat would favour the Warsaw Pact, a long combat would turn the balance against it, by reason of the very truth to which the "Brezhnev doctrine" refers. The East European armies are manned by our natural allies, who would sooner fight against the power which coerces them than against the West. The longer they are exposed to war, the more disaffected they will become with its purpose, which runs counter to everything that they inwardly desire.

What is to be done? The first step is to take seriously the suggestion by Lord Hill-Norton and others (Letters, March 29) that we begin now to restore our home defences. A standing army, however expert, can operate for long only from a secure base. A Britain without effective civil defence, and without a force able to secure it against invasion, would not have time to discover who its real allies are.

It is, I believe, the belief that we may have the capacity to make that discovery which has offered the major deterrent to Soviet expansion. By virtue of the Brezhnev doctrine, the Soviet Union has gained many subjects. But it has also begun to recognize that it has no real allies at all.

The author is Editor of The Salisbury Review.



Arm twisting as the Scotch flowed: Moss Evans (left), David Bassett, and Clive Jenkins, all arguing for the TUC-Labour plan

charlie 155



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ Telephone: 01-837 1234

GOOD RIDDANCE TO LEAD

Nothing that can be said about lead has done more to give it a bad name than the supposed effect of even small quantities of the stuff on the intelligence and behaviour of children. Most of the thrust to the campaign for the abolition of the common uses of lead, notably in petrol, has come from the self-accusation that we allow an avoidably lead-infested environment to surround a significant proportion of our children. It is an irony that the campaign should have become increasingly influential while its first charge has become decreasingly conclusive.

The difficulty about demonstrating a causal connexion between the levels of concentration of lead in children's bodies and their performance and behaviour is not merely the difficulty of being accurate about minute quantities of the substance and about the measurement of intelligence and behavioural disturbance. Other factors such as parental IQ or social conditions may be similarly correlated in a complex pattern in which it is not possible to identify the causal threads.

The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution concludes its consideration of this part of the evidence by saying, "In our view the accumulated evidence may indicate a causal association between the body burden of lead and psychometric indices, or the effects of confounding factors, or both. On present evidence we do not consider it possible to distinguish between these possibilities."

But where the science of the subject may admit doubt, the politics of the subject knows no such hesitation. It is now past the point where the onus of proof shifts from those who challenge current practices to those who would defend them. It is no longer necessary to show that a thick urban environment exposes children to the risks considered; it is necessary to show that it does not. And the second can be done no more

conclusively than the first. The children, not the lead, get the benefit of the doubt; and when the matter is put like that, who would dare dispute it?

The report of the royal commission displays the extent of uncertainty surrounding the subject - uncertainty about the relative importance of different sources of lead pollution in the environment and of the different routes by which it approaches and enters the body, about the levels giving rise to poisoning or other harm, about the interpretation of the statistical evidence.

Constantly to stress the difficulties, the authors say, would be "an excessively negative approach". Instead we have seen our task as making the best assessment from the existing information and drawing robust conclusions." One piece of the existing information impressed them, as well it might. The average blood lead concentration in the United Kingdom is one quarter of that at which amenable features of lead poisoning may occur. "We are not aware of any other toxin which is so widely distributed ... and which is also universally present at levels that exceed even one tenth of that at which clinical signs and symptoms may occur."

The safety margin is precariously small in view of the chances of running into quite high local concentrations in the environment in which it is not possible to identify the causal threads.

The safety margin is precariously small in view of the chances of running into quite high local concentrations in the environment in which it is not possible to identify the causal threads.

That, with the rest of its assessment, prompts the commission to open a general offensive against the practices through which man releases lead into the environment, from the most particular (boys with fishing rods closing split shot weights with their teeth) to the most general (emissions from the exhaust pipes of cars).

Petrol companies and motor manufacturers have been given a lot of stick in recent years; plumbers and water undertakings less stick than they deserve. Nearly half the houses in the country receive a water supply

that passes at some stage through lead piping. Where the water has the property of dissolving lead a person may receive more than his uptake of lead from that source, which is more than twice as much as he is likely to get from lead in petrol.

The remedy is obvious, replace lead piping with one of the common and satisfactory substitutes. But it costs a bit, it requires action by householders and it involves arguable decisions about apportionment of the expense. Instead of that there is a mixture of incentive grants, surveys by water boards, and additives to the water, all of which makes for small change.

The Minister's practical enthusiasm for lead clearance should be judged by what he does about water pipes as well as what he does about petrol.

There is an already established trend in the industrialized world towards reduced lead content in petrol and ultimately lead-free petrol. Oil refiners and motor manufacturers are braced for further impetus in that direction coming from their governments, public opinion is expectant, and even motoring opinion, if that can be separated out, is becoming reconciled to the extra running and capital costs (which do not look too bad - part of the pain, according to the royal commission, coming not as extra fuel consumption but in the gender form of fuel economy forgone).

The important thing now is to get the timing of this process right, which does not mean in the shortest possible time at all costs. The object is the avoidance not of certainties but of uncertain risks. It is therefore legitimate to weigh the economic costs of the innovation required and to balance that against speed of introduction. It is also right to seek as close a synchronization as possible among the major producers and markets. The commission looks to the landmark of all new cars built for lead-free petrol by the end of this decade. That is a reasonable target.

We regret that the National Association of Probation Officers feel that there is now no other alternative for them than to take industrial action. We hope it will not come to that and that the Home Secretary is about to introduce new forms of treatment for offenders, which probation officers will be required to undertake.

Yours faithfully,
WELLS-PESTELL,
ALLAN OF ABBEYDALE,
DONALDSON,
ELYSTAN-MORGAN,
JANE Ewart-BIGGS,
JOHN FOOT,
JOHN HUNT,
WIGODER,
House of Lords.
April 13.

From the Managing Director of the National Film Finance Corporation

Sir, In his under-researched piece in *The Times* on April 13 David Hewson does not mention that a short film backed by the National Film Finance Corporation and Virgin Films, *A Shocking Accident*, also won an Oscar. Did he not know? Or was it not worthy of mention?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES QUINN,
Creston Cottage,
108 Marine Parade,
Brighton, Sussex.

April 13.

Animal experiments

From Mr Clive Hollands

Sir, Your report on the joint proposals submitted to the Home Secretary on animal experiments by the British Veterinary Association, the Committee for the Reform of Animal Experimentation and the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (April 15) did not refer to the most important element in the proposals which rely almost entirely for their effectiveness on the "pain clause" which governs what may be permitted in terms of the infliction of suffering in relation to the purpose of the experiment.

This "pain clause", which is the absolute minimum acceptable in new legislation, would permit the infliction of pain, suffering or distress of no more than trivial intensity and momentary duration unless the procedure was judged to be of exceptional importance in meeting the essential needs of man or animals.

Yours sincerely,
CLIVE HOLLANDS, Secretary,
Committee for the Reform of
Animal Experimentation,
10 Queen's Gate, London SW7.

Edinburgh.

April 15.

Post-coital pill

From Mr P. L. C. Diggory

Sir, There is now pretty firm medical evidence that the primary, though probably not only, mode of action of the intra-uterine device takes place after fertilisation. This is most certainly true of hormone-impregnated intra-uterine devices which enjoy extensive use worldwide but not greatly in this country.

It is now, therefore, a matter of urgency that doctors should be assured that the use of these devices does not constitute a breach of the law.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DIGGORY,
Kingston and Esher Health
Authority,
Kingston Hospital,
Wolverton Avenue,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Aid to Third World

From Mr John R. Clapperton

Sir, Professors Bauer and Yamey (feature, April 11) may possibly be right in their criticisms of the aid programme to the Third World.

Bearing in mind that one person in four in the world suffers from malnutrition, while there is a surplus of food in the developed world, we have what amounts to mismanagement on a global scale. I expected to see at least one positive alternative suggestion as to how this problem could be solved.

I looked in vain. Every suggestion made was negative.

What should we do? Let the undernourished starve?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. CLAPPERTON,
2 Pearce Grove,
Edinburgh,
April 13.

Powys review

From Professor G. R. Wilson Knight

Sir, In his review of *The Powys Brothers* (April 7) Mr Byron Rogers highlights for his purposes a selection of biographical facts, drawn from Mr Graves's comprehensive survey. Tolstoy's account of the events in King Lear in support of his aspersions on Shakespeare comes to

mind: he offered for our inspection the bones without the flesh and blood and concluded that the play was composed by an inefficient and foolish writer. So, too, with Mr Rogers's review.

It would seem that he has not seriously returned to J. C. Powys since he was entranced at the age of 15. His present views of the Powys brothers appear certainly immature. I suggest that he now re-reads *A Glastonbury Romance* and *Owen Glendower*, and perhaps T. F. Powys's *Mr Weston's Good Wine*, so admired by F. R. Levin, who gave me a copy; and *Llewelyn's Black Laughter*.

His views in maturity might be strikingly reversed.

Yours faithfully,
G. R. WILSON KNIGHT,
President,
The Powys Society,
Caroline House,
Streatham Rise,
Exeter, Devon.

Crumbling sewers

From Mr John Whitehead

Sir, You report (April 7, page 3) under the headline "Lorry speed motorway decay" that "Britain's motorways are crumbling faster than ever and the Department of Transport admits that heavy lorries are the main culprits."

Not only motorways. The pressure and vibration of heavy lorries are the reasons for the serious, not to say dangerous, condition of many sewers. You say that about 25 per cent of heavy lorry mileage is on motorways, and therefore about 75 per cent must be on ordinary roads, and over the sewers under them.

The damage will increase dramatically since the maximum lorry weight has just been raised to 38 tonnes.

Surely the Government should think again about its intention that the vast cost of replacing the sewers should be met by the general public through water rates? This is an expense which ought to be met by the owners of the lorries through an addition to taxation.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WHITEHEAD,
21 Cwstow Road,
Swanage,
Dorset,
April 13.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Probation service pay concern

From Mr James Quinn

Sir, Mr David Hewson, in his otherwise perceptive article (April 13), remarks that "no one has yet explained adequately why the cinema industry is more deserving of favourable treatment than, say, makers of ball bearings..."

Comparisons, to be of value, should compare like with like. It may well be that the ball-bearing industry offers "steeper" employment for more people", but whether true or untrue is this more important to Britain than the impact of its films - in cinemas and on television - on the minds of millions of us?

His proper praise for Goldcrest

for its bold support of *Gandhi* leaves out another fact, which is that it would not have been made without government support; the National Film Development Corporation of India invested about £4m. We are trying to do a similar task to the NFDC's here - that is to encourage the private sector by sharing some of the risk. However, unlike them we could not have privately considered an investment of £4m as it represents nearly three years' income from *Eady*. Resources dictate policy, the choice of films in which we can invest is narrow.

Hewson alleges that a "string of films" supported by the NFDC have failed, specifying only *Britannia Hospital*. When I asked him to give me a list, he was not forthcoming. *Britannia Hospital* is, in fact, doing well abroad, including America, where it was highly acclaimed; *Gregory's Girl*, another of our films, is successful and will eventually make a profit many times its cost. How many films can Hewson name which have done that?

In his opinion the corporation is "elitist" and he imagines that we and, presumably, our co-investors from the private sector do not care very much whether our films attract an audience. He should look at the facts in the USA. American studios with their vast resources and their dominance of world markets estimate that one film in 10 makes a profit, two break even, and seven lose money.

Our record compares favourably, notwithstanding the fact that we operate from a very small base on an income of £1.5m annually from *Eady*, which has to cover overheads, production, development of projects through the National Film Development Fund, and the provision of legal and administrative services to the industry through the National Film Trustee Company.

In the context of the immense international publicity and debate surrounding *Gandhi*, the extraordinary success of *Chariots of Fire* and *Death of a Princess* not too long ago, it is hard to comprehend the need to argue yet again that the production of good British films must be the concern of government for reasons which go far beyond the issues of employment, steady or casual.

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Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 695.0 down 0.5
FT Gilt: 82.19 up 0.10
FT All Shares: 441.52 up 2.0
Bargain: 25.612
Tring Hall USM Index: 172.9 up 0.5
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Average: 8,582.53, up 30.37
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index, 1,040.97
New York: Dow Jones Average 1,722.21 up 0.87 of a point.

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5615 up 1.35 cents
Index 83.8 up 0.9
DM 3.8325
Fr 11.51
Yen 371.75
Dollar
Index 122.8 up 0.3
DM 2.4595 up 210 cents
Gold \$441.50 up \$4
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$443.00
Sterling \$1.5620

INTEREST-RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10%–10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 91.93%
3 month DM 51.15%
3 month Fr 13.5%
ECCD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

T S L Therm. Sys. 68p. up 15p
Johnson & F.B. 10p. up 2p
Auto. Prod. 33p. up 6p
M T D (Mangrove) 23p. up 3p
Atlanta Bell. 142p. up 18p
S. W. Wood 16p. up 2p
Blackw. Hodge 24p. down 34p
Wheway Watson 11p. down 1p
T. Borthwick 23p. down 2p
Snia Viscose 35p. down 3p
Whlock Mar. 35% down 3p
Carpet Int. 50p. down 3S1/2p

TODAY

Interviews: Stewart Nairn,
Finanz: Aberthaw Cement,
Alva Inv. Tst. Bank of Scotland,
Crowther (John), Cusine
Property, First Charlotte As-
sets 1st, Hambo Life Assur-
ance, Harrison Cowley, High-
land Elecs, Savoy Hotel, Tate
of Leeds, Tilbury, Tove, Web-
ster.

UDS seeking
135p a share

There were indications last night that the board of UDS, the stores group, would be prepared to change its mind and recommend the takeover terms offered by Hanson Trust, instead of those offered by rival bidder Bassishaw, if Hanson raised its cash offer from 133p to 135p per share.

The closing date for Hanson Trust's last offer of 133p, in cash for each UDS ordinary share is Friday and the company has already won acceptances from 25 per cent of UDS shareholders. But the UDS board has made it clear that it had more faith in the written assurances over the future of the group and its employees made by Mr Gerald Ronson's Bassishaw Investments consortium, than those given by Hanson.

● £35m ISSUE: Applications open on Thursday for an issue of £35 million of City of Bristol 11½ per cent red stock 2008 at £98. The stock is offered 20 partly paid with the balance due on October 12. Broken Butcher, Laing & Crukshank and Pember & Boyle have agreed to take up half of the issued capital.

● KTZ STAKE: Brokers Rowe & Pitman yesterday placed the remainder of Charter Consolidaed's stake in rival mining finance house, Rio-Tinto Zinc, worth around £51m. The 9.1 million shares were placed with various institutions without too much trouble at 56.2p a share. Earlier this year Charter sold a further 1.15 million shares for about £6m.

Market report, page 22

● INDUSTRIAL AID: Government approval has been given for the English Industrial Estates Corporation to spend £27m on new industrial and commercial projects in assisted areas within England during 1983–4.

● £50m EUROBOND: BOC International is raising £50m through a Eurobond issue maturing in 1991. The coupon is 11½ per cent and the bonds cannot normally be redeemed before maturity.

Wall St stocks turn lower

New York (AP Dow Jones) — Wall Street stocks turned lower. The Dow Jones Industrial average was off about 1½ points compared with its early gain of 1½.

Losers moved ahead of advances by about 50 issues.

Trading was active.

Mr Gene Jay Seagle, director of Technical Research for Herzfeld & Stern, said: "There are enough doubting Thomases around to keep the market in check. They cause waves of profit-taking and shorting as we climb toward the 1,200 level."

Mr Seagle said: "We have had a hefty consolidation going back to the November top and carrying to the January bottom. It has been completed. I see no reason to expect anything like a 100 to 150-point setback that we had so recently looked for. Those who feel that we need more volume are getting it."

Digital Equipment was 127½ off 1½, Eastman Kodak 81½ off 1½, Upjohn 53½ off 1½, American Hospital Supply 48½ off 1½, General Mills 52½ off 1½, Teledyne 145 off 1½, Texas Instruments 162½ off 1½, and Motorola 112½ off 1½.

General Dynamics was up 3½ to 48½, NCR up 2½ to 114½, General Electric up 4½ to 109½, General Motors up 3½ to 63½, American Telephone & Telegraph up 1½ to 67½, Sanderson down 2½ to 46½, and American Express down 1½ to 67½.

Fed chairman recommends modest intervention to control dollar

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, in a break with Reagan philosophy has recommended a policy of modest intervention in currency markets to control the erratic dollar.

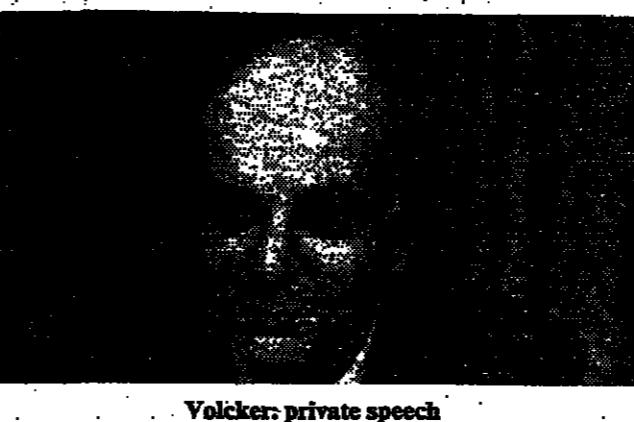
He proposed the policy of limited intervention during a private address to members of the prestigious Trilateral Commission, which is holding an annual three-day conference in Rome.

The Reagan Administration has come under increasing pressure on fluctuating exchange rates, a topic which is expected to be a priority at the Williamsburg economic summit next month.

The Administration is being pressed to reconsider its strict policy intervention in currency markets and to agree to a a policy of modest intervention to control the dollar.

But the Fed chairman said that industrialized nations should be prepared to step in with limited intervention when markets "overheat", and currencies move toward radically as has been the case with the dollar.

This limited intervention had



Volcker: private speech

been United States policy before the Reagan Administration took office and adopted a policy of intervention only in near-catastrophic situations.

Only two weeks ago, Mr Martin Feldstein, chairman of the President's Council of

Economic Advisers, reiterated the position that market forces should be the sole determination of exchange rates.

But other officials, including Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary, have hinted that they would like to see more stable rates through better international coordination of currency policies.

Mr Volcker's remarks came a few days after the announcement that an influential group of international leaders headed by Dr Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, will launch a campaign to force the Reagan Administration to agree to revisions of the international monetary system.

Dr Kissinger has stated his belief that world economic recovery cannot occur without revisions to the system.

City Comment

Holding the line on debt

Brazil's recurring liquidity problems are a timely reminder that the debt crisis is not going to disappear overnight and that the existing rescue packages put in place for a number of the biggest borrowers were essentially holding operations.

Brazil is reported once more to be behind with payments to the banks, and talks between Brazilian officials and the country's main commercial bank creditors which began in London yesterday are aimed at providing the country with about \$3,000m extra liquidity to see it through.

However, there is still a strong likelihood that Brazil will need further credits from the banks later in the year, despite the success it is having in pushing up its trade surplus, and nobody doubts that Mexico will also need more money before the year is out.

All sorts of options ranging from central banks or the International Monetary Fund re-discounting commercial bank debt to developing countries or

governments guaranteeing new loans have been put forward to ensure that the banks keep on lending. However, the only common point of agreement is that everyone would like to have some kind of emergency system in place should the need arise.

In practice, of course, this means that very little is likely to happen until it is too late and *ad hoc* measures and bullying of the banks by the official agencies will probably be the preferred route once again.

In the meantime, it is the extent and vigour of the world recovery which will determine whether another round of emergency rescue packages for the developing countries become necessary later this year.

Protest over Fraser board circular

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Another row erupted yesterday between Lordon and the House of Fraser over a circular from Lordon advising shareholders of the stores group to support a demerger of Harrods.

The circular, issued by Lordon's two representatives on the House of Fraser board and carrying the stores group's letterheading, was immediately denounced by Professor Roland Smith, House of Fraser chairman.

He described it as "glamorously superficial" and full of selective quotations designed to mislead shareholders. He added: "We deplore the unauthorized use of the letterheading of the company. We are advised it is improper and are consulting our lawyers." He also criticized the use of confidential information in the circular.

The two Lordon representatives, Lord Duncan-Sands and Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, who make clear in the circular the stores group's letterheading of the company, say that there would be big advantages in demerging Harrods from the rest of the stores group.

The Lordon representatives argue that the Harrods board could be able to raise standards and realize the full potential of the store if it was independent.

They will no longer have to satisfy the insatiable appetite of the other House of Fraser stores for Harrods' cash.

Lordon said yesterday the Stock Exchange had approved the circular and use of the House of Fraser letterheading.

Shareholders are due to vote on May 6 at an extraordinary meeting on a House of Fraser resolution advising against a demerger. Lordon has repositioned another extraordinary meeting to put its own resolution, and is advising shareholders to vote against the motion from House of Fraser.

Sotheby's take over by May

By Michael Felt

General Felt Industries will own Sotheby Parke-Bernet, the fine art auctioneers, by the middle of May, Mr Stephen Swid, of General Felt, said yesterday.

But in a remark designed to ease the fears of Sotheby's experts, who have resisted the takeover, Mr Swid pledged that he and his colleague, Mr Marshall Cogan, would work with the staff.

Mr Swid said: "I am confident and I think we will own Sotheby's by mid-May." He doubted whether Sotheby's would find a "white knight" to rescue it from General Felt's £92m (£58.9m) bid.

The two American businessmen made a general offer of 520p a share for Sotheby last week. But the bid has been rejected by the Sotheby directors and the company's 133 experts have threatened to resign if General Felt gains control.

More than half of Sotheby's shares are in American hands, but it is not clear how much of the equity is controlled by Mr Swid and Mr Cogan.

At present Rowntree has no manufacturing business in the US, although it does in Canada.



Lord Duncan-Sands: contrary view

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£140m US deal for Rowntree

By Sally White

Rowtree Mackintosh has agreed in principle to buy Tom's Foods, a regional US snack foods group, from General Mills for about £140m.

The news helped increase Rowntree's share price by 4p to 250p.

Mr Kenneth Dixon, chairman, said: "This acquisition is very attractive to the group. It will achieve our aim of both expanding into the United States and broadening our product range."

Sales of Tom's Foods in the year May 30 to last year were about £130m, and profits were about £16m. Rowntree is funding the acquisition with a seven-year loan.

Independent distributors sell Tom's products to retail outlets and vending machine operators. Distribution is mainly in the south east and south west of the country, and is a staff of 2,400 in seven factories with a head office in Georgia.

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Saatchi & Saatchi, advertising agents to the Conservative Party, British Airways and many of Britain's largest consumer goods companies, has produced many successful campaigns. But perhaps its most difficult image-boosting job has been the one to persuade the City of the financial merits of the advertising business.

Before Saatchi and the other high-flying ad agency, Geers Gross, came along, the City's rating of the advertising business was about as low as it could be. Now ad agencies and other creative companies in the design and public relations fields have become fashionable stocks, with price/earnings ratios of 20 or more. Suddenly the advertising world is looking to the City for finance and security, instead of selling out to American or European groups.

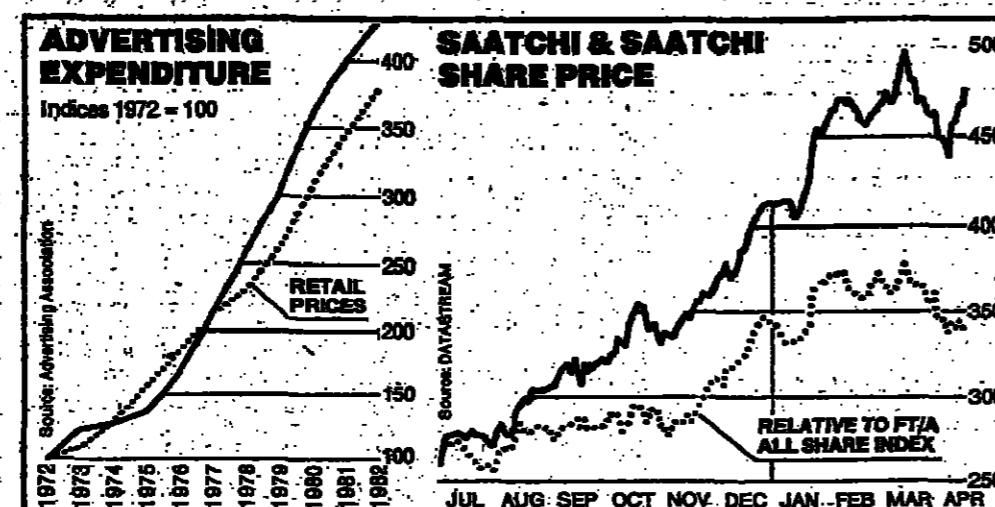
In January, the bright young agency, Wight Collins Rutherford Scott entered the Unlisted Securities Market, in the process boosting the price of Saatchi and Geers Gross shares to their highest point of the year, as attention focused on the growth in the ad business. Now Boase Massimi Pollitt, one of the most highly regarded agencies with clients such as Courage, Cadbury, Schweppes, Quaker Oats and Gillette, has announced plans to seek a full listing on the Stock Exchange.

Boose will be the first agency to go fully public since 1969, the year after it was set up as a breakaway from the American-owned Pritchard Wood agency. Since then it has built up an enviable reputation for its entertaining and effective television commercials, the Cadbury Smash Martians and the "Gercha" Courage campaigns were its work.

Its turnover has grown from £800,000 in its first year to £37m last year and its pre-tax profits last year were £790,000, suggesting that it could be valued at £12m or more. Seventy of its 155 staff own shares in the company.

Mr Martin Boase, the chairman, is in no doubt about the debt the advertising business owes Saatchi & Saatchi. "I think Maurice Saatchi has done a magnificent job in educating the City about advertising," he says. "He has managed to explode a number of myths that were prevalent - the belief that clients are constantly walking in and out of the door, that accounts are tied to individual executives and will follow them around from agency to agency, and so on."

He has underlined the fact that the top agencies are stable companies and that the agencies in the top 20 have not changed that much over the years. He has also demonstrated to the to be in hard times, has been



City that advertising expenditure has held up remarkably well during the recession.

This last factor is as crucial as any in explaining the City's change of attitude to advertising, not least because it has helped to ensure that Saatchi's profits have grown regularly for the last 12 years, despite the recession. They reached £5.5m last year. Advertising expenditure grew in real terms last year

seen to prosper." It's all been turned on its head.

Agencies used to have a price/earnings ratio of around three-quarters of the average. Now they are seen as premium shares.

Mr Michael Waterson, the director of research at the Advertising Association, says the change in attitude towards advertising is not confined to the City. "Marketing is now recognised as being far more important, which is why advertising survived the recession so well. Many companies really learned a lesson from the 1974 jump when they cut their advertising budgets and found that their competitors, who maintained their spending, gained market share at their expense."

However, the fundamental reason why the recession has had little impact on display advertising is that consumers' expenditure has remained virtually stable throughout. It is sometimes difficult to believe that the worst recession that most people under pension age can remember has actually had an almost negligible effect on consumer spending, but this is nevertheless so.

Mr Seward and Mr Waterson agree that Saatchi & Saatchi is largely responsible for getting this message across to the City, mainly through its annual

report, which each year reviews the marketing and advertising business and puts it into its economic context with great flair and thoroughness, explaining the importance of creating long-term brands and examining the implications for worldwide marketing of technological developments such as satellite and cable television.

Nevertheless, as with most marketing successes, it is not merely the presentation of the advertising business that has changed, but the product itself. Advertising agencies, by and large, are far better managed now than they were at the start of the 1970s. The problems that some of the larger, publicly-quoted agencies met then served as an object lesson for the rest of the business. It was little wonder in those days that the City had a sceptical view of advertising.

Long-established public companies such as Bensons and Dordlands found themselves the targets of bids from companies anxious not for their advertising interests but their property. In a hectic few months in 1971, Dordlands was bought by John Bentley's Barclay Securities and sold again, minus the property. The individual agencies in the group have since been sold off.

It was little wonder then that

it has taken until now for agencies to brave the City path again - Saatchi became a public company almost by accident as a result of its takeover of the already quoted Garland-Compton agency in 1975 - and it is a measure of the work that Saatchi and Geers Gross have done in recent years that those traumatic experiences are now largely forgotten. Pension funds now own a third of Saatchi shares.

Nevertheless, there are those who believe that the advertising boom cannot go on for ever and that it will only take one setback for the City to look anew at these glittering stocks.

Mr Keith Shepherd of Hoare Govett says: "They have got pretty fancy ratings which they've justified to date, but I wouldn't pin high hopes on an inevitable growth. There is a limited amount of resource that manufacturers can put into advertising."

It is no coincidence that both Saatchi and Geers Gross are looking overseas for growth. Geers Gross was the first into the United States in 1978 and has since grown further by acquisition. Last year Saatchi bought the Compton International network (which had links with Garland Compton) and catapulted itself into the list of the world's top 10 agencies, with offices in 37 countries and a worldwide turnover of approximately \$1,300m (£849m).

Whether Boase Massimi Pollitt and Wight Collins Rutherford Scott can match the performance of Saatchi and Geers Gross remains to be seen, but their decision to go public has inspired a number of other agencies to consider the idea.

Mr Boase hopes others will follow - "it would be wonderful if we could develop an advertising sector, it would improve the City's knowledge of our business even further" - but he is under no illusions about the pressures that going public imposes.

"Public scrutiny is not something we're afraid of," he says. "With agencies of our maturity of management - our top six directors have been here for 10 years - and the spread and balance of our business it can do nothing but good. That's why we've gone for a full listing and not for the USM."

Other agencies may feel nevertheless that the need for inexorable profits growth is a distracting influence on the business of running the company, making financial requirements of overriding importance. What is certain is that a great many more agency management are considering the idea.

Financial notebook

Money services without tiers

A great deal has been written about the impact of technology on the future of the market for financial services. It is widely agreed that the dividing lines between the different types of financial institutions will increasingly be blurred, but there is less agreement on the form that will emerge.

In my view, developments over the next decade are likely to be somewhat different for each of three layers of the market, but one comment is of general application. People are not interested in technology as such; they are interested in something that will make life simpler for them. A person needs a wide range of financial services - short-term and long-term savings, life assurance protection, money transmission, short-term loans, and a mortgage.

While people may enjoy shopping for food and clothing, they do not enjoy shopping around for financial services; they are confused about where to go for what, and how to decide which product is best. The key to attracting customer loyalty for financial services is, therefore, to package them in a way which will make life simpler for the customer.

The first layer of the market consists of those adults who do not yet have a bank account. These people have traditionally been paid in cash and they are in no hurry to change over to the cashless society.

The phenomenal growth of the building societies over the past 20 years has been built up largely upon the increasing affluence of this group and I would expect the building societies to hold on to their dominant position as they start to extend a wider range of services - such as the Abbey National Chequersave - to their customers. For this important sector of the market, the building society branch may well grow into a financial service.

Providing this service will call for considerable resources of training, management and administration, but the benefit to the "gold card" customer and the group that provides the services should be substantial.

Mark Weinberg

The author is deputy chairman of Hambro Life Assurance

ROYAL INSURANCE - 1982

US premium growth of 12% improved our market share for the second successive year. In the UK, growth of 9% was satisfactory against the background of current economic conditions.

Important developments for Royal Life in the UK in 1982 - our entry into unit linked business and the establishment of a direct sales force - will serve us well in the years to come.

Royal Insurance

Profit after tax was slightly higher at £72.9m.

Please send me a copy of the Report & Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1982.

Name _____

Address _____

To: The Secretary, Royal Insurance plc, Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

TT 1943

Banks in quandary over Saudi deficit

By Michael Prest

An admission by Mr Mohammad Abal-Khai, the Saudi Arabian finance minister, that the kingdom needs to export about 6 million barrels of oil a day at the present price of \$29 a barrel to cover development and other costs.

Last year's average was 5.6m barrels a day and the March figure was a mere 3.5 million barrels a day.

But there is a reasonable chance that output and exports will rise later in the year. The Saudi Government hopes that a combination of world economic recovery, rebuilding of stocks, and seasonal fluctuations will raise demand.

Mr Abal-Khai said that total Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries production could go up from about 16 million barrels a day now to 19 million barrels a day towards the end of the calendar year.

One factor clearly working in Saudi Arabia's favour is the lower rate of import price inflation. The success of most of the kingdom's main industrial suppliers in reducing their domestic rate of price increases, allied with cut-throat competition for Saudi contracts, could lead to import bills lower than expected.

But whatever the eventual combination of events bankers are sure that Saudi Arabia will not start withdrawing deposits until late in its financial year. The new developments in the rental and hire purchase markets with investment in larger selling areas pushed up unit borrowing to £3m.

It makes sense to delay payments while earning interest and capital appreciation on the kingdom's external assets of \$160,000m for as long as possible.

• Kuwait plans to raise spending by about 4 per cent in the financial year beginning on July 1 to about 3,500m dinars (£27,843m). Mr Abdel-Aziz Husayn, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs said yesterday.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

eb Internationa
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit, £362,000 (£90,000).
Statued earnings, 7.3p (7.0p).
Turnover, 221.5m (£24.3m).
Net dividend, 2.4p (2.25p).

ondex and Continental Advertising
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit, £410,000 (£318,000).
Statued earnings, 1.27p (1.05p).
Turnover, 22.2m (£1.73m).
Net dividend, 0.20p (0.15p).

Rate of Leeds
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit, £574,000 (£611,000).
Statued earnings, 43.2p (42.5p).
Turnover, 219.08m (£17.65m).
Net dividend, 1.25p (1.25p).

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Twinlock
Year to 27.2.83
Pre-tax profit, £1.07m (£563,000).
Statued earnings, 3.45p (1.53p).
Turnover, 231.2m (£25.1m).
Net dividend, 0.50p (0.50p).

British Empire Securities and General Trust
Half-year to 31.3.83
Pre-tax revenue, £147,000
Net interim dividend, 0.2p (0.2p)

Blockleys
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit, £652,000 (£405,000).
Statued earnings, 18.45p (15.52p).
Turnover, 23.6m (£3.12m).
Net dividend, 10.0p (7.3p).

Highway
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit, £1.2m (£1.1m).
Statued earnings, 1.25p (1.25p).
Turnover, 1.2m (£1.2m).
Net dividend, 0.125p (0.125p).

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Standard Chartered

BANK PLC



Comments by the Chairman, The Rt. Hon. Lord Barber

Profits before taxation for the year ended 31st December, 1982, amounted to £242 million, compared with £260 million the year before. The net profit attributable to shareholders, after deducting taxation and minority interests, was £114 million or 88 pence per share. The total dividend proposed for the year is 27 pence per share.

A modest improvement was achieved in our operating performance around the world in spite of the recession but this was more than offset by the large increase in provisions against doubtful loans.

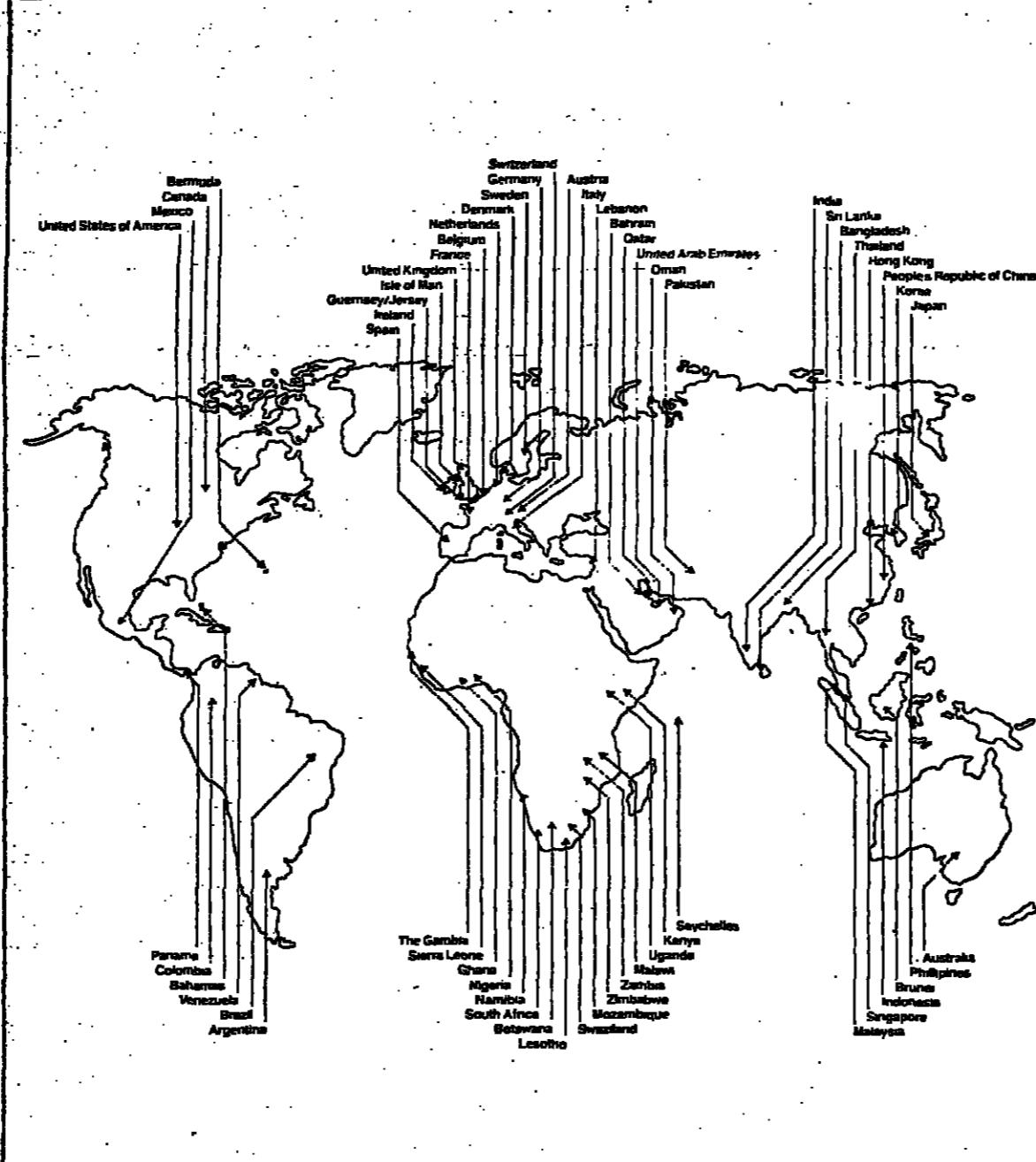
1982 was a year of difficult trading conditions for commercial banking and consumer finance in most of our principal markets. The worldwide network of foreign exchange and treasury centres achieved very satisfactory results. The slowdown in the South African economy affected our subsidiary there, but the improved prospects in the closing months led to a better outturn than had earlier been anticipated. Union Bank produced creditable results in the difficult Californian market. In the Far East, the tougher trading climate in Hong Kong was exacerbated by some concern about the future of the territory.

In the early part of the year a worldwide cost reduction programme was instituted, the benefits from which will be realised in the current year, as well as instilling a generally more alert attitude to cost factors. For a bank such as ours the importance of keeping

**Shareholders' Funds now
£1,141 million**

**Capital Resources now
£1,632 million**

**Total Assets now
£24,307 million**



**1,900 offices in over 60 countries
around the world.**

abreast of the latest developments in information technology is obvious, and we are engaged in a major exercise to improve the Bank's systems.

With such wide geographical coverage there are inevitably

changes from year to year in our representational structure. In addition to an increased presence in China, there were other significant changes referred to in my fuller Statement with the Report and Accounts.

In particular, in the United States we have formed an integrated management group to make the most effective use of the presence which the Group already has in seven major States.

Our merchant banking interests now cover ten countries. Last year we took a significant further step by agreeing to acquire MAIBL, the first of the London consortium banks, which will merge with Standard Chartered Merchant Bank.

The problems of international debt servicing for the banking system have seldom been out of the headlines during the past year. It can readily be seen now that several countries had allowed too high a proportion of their public debt to be borrowed abroad and that the prolonged recession and continued high interest rates have created a difficult situation. It will take time for a better balance to evolve, and banks with a continuing interest in the long-term health of the countries experiencing difficulties must play a responsible and co-operating role in easing the adjustment.

For Standard Chartered our concern is both with the internal health of the countries in which we operate commercial banking businesses, and with the safety of our international lending. Other than trade finance, international lending has never been a dominant feature of our operations. We have, however, a well spread portfolio of sovereign type lending, the major part of which is to countries where we have an established banking presence.

Architecture and design

Drawing to a deadline

When Hulme Chadwick & Partners won a contract from London Transport to refurbish Chancery Lane and St Paul's Underground stations. Andrew Chadwick decided a computer was essential to meet the tight deadline. But with £100,000 committed and the computer equipment on its way from the United States, the projects were cancelled.

Chadwick, far from losing heart, set up a computer draughting bureau for other architects and designers. Not only would this help to recoup the investment, but he would also be able to use the system in his own business.

Three years later, Chadwick is recognized as an expert on the application of computers in draughting and design, and actively promotes their cause.

"I never want to draw on a drawing board again," he says.

The Hulme Chadwick practice, founded by Andrew Chadwick's father, seems to thrive on the unusual. Now specializing in refurbishing old buildings and interior design, it is housed in a former Bass Charrington pub in Cleveland Street, close to London's Middlesex Hospital. Much of the outside appearance has been preserved, but anyone dropping in for a pint would be disappointed, not to say surprised, for behind the Victorian engraved windows are work stations and VDUs.

In the beer cellar, barrels have given way to automatic draughting tables which sketch out an elevation or an architectural detail at the touch of a button. Chadwick soon dispenses of any suspicion that it may be too automated and lacking in creative content.

"It's a question of applying your knowledge and making computers do what you want," he says. "To me, the computer is a piano and we are the pianists. Some people think of them as pianolas, doing your job for you, but we haven't reached that stage yet. The skill of the individual in his own area of expertise is essential. If you put a man on the computer who can't draw, it doesn't mean anything."

Although the computer is only a tool, it is a very powerful one, and Chadwick has shown that its contribution to architecture and design can be invaluable. Drawing in the normal way is a kind of two dimensional shorthand for a three dimensional object. The computer translates that shorthand into patterns of zeros and ones, which represent coordinates much more accurate than anything a person can draw on paper.

"The information you produce can also be transmitted in a completely different way. You can carry it around in the form of magnetic tape, you can send it down a telephone line – a kind of drawing telex," Chadwick says.

Graphic and non-graphic data can be combined in the same process, surveyors can provide information in the form



Andrew Chadwick (centre) with colleagues Mr E. Lowinger (left) and Mr R. Watkins outside the deceptive "pub"

of a tape instead of a drawing, and the same basic data can be used to draw to different scales.

Costs can be controlled more closely, and time can be saved.

"You can do a fairly large drawing job in a quarter of the time and at half the cost, and you can use the time you've saved for better supervision of the work."

There are also large benefits if an architect or client has a change of heart. The ramifications of changing a specification are little understood outside the profession: making one alteration can generate all sorts of problems in other areas – something which a well-tempered computer can handle.

Admirers of Municipal Gothic and Bankers' Georgian may fear that the computer will condemn us to a future of Chadwick.

matchbox regularity. Not so, says Chadwick. "You work with shapes in relation to one another. Every building, even the most Gaudi-esque extravaganza, is a collection of components, and working with those components doesn't make for boredom. My computer can draw brickwork, and the fact that you can do that means that you use it."

The computer provides so much information that it places a burden on the designer to make choices. It leads away from conformity towards non-conformity.

Although Andrew Chadwick has been one of the pioneers in applying computers to architectural and interior design, the profession as a whole has not been indifferent. In Britain, interest is intense. Chadwick

Roger Woolnough

Teething troubles with the Drive

Customers of Clive Sinclair who bought his Spectrum machine when it was launched a year ago have been frustrated at the wait for his long-promised and revolutionary Micro Drive. Details were published to coincide with the launch of the computer, but a variety of teething troubles have continued to delay the launch.

Now, however, the company expects to start selling the Drive within the next few weeks. To keep faith with the original mail-order customers, it will be sold initially by mail, and only when it is rolling off the production line in sufficient numbers will it find its way into retail outlets.

When it does finally arrive, it will offer a storage capacity of more than 100K, plus £30 for the computer interface.

Sharp, the Japanese electronics giant, is to launch a micro aimed at the home user, the MZ700, this summer. The machine will offer 64K ram, colour, sound, and graphics. It will be fully supported by software for the domestic user, and be compatible with software written for its big brother, the MZ80. It will slot into the highly competitive £200 to £300 range.

Computers, makers of the Lynx computer, have just concluded a financial deal which will inject more cash into the company. They are now taking on more design and development staff at their Cambridge factory and see the increased cash as a means of speeding support for their micro. Printer interfaces and a single disc drive should be available within the next two months. They have also set up their own software production company, Camsoft, and the first of their educational programs should be available about the same time as the disc drive.

If you are a happy family motorist, then I advise you not to buy one of the latest home application programs from the Reading-based software house Audiogenic.

One of its six domestic programs for the VIC20 is called Car Costs, and after questioning the driver, it will analyse the expense of car ownership, displaying the costs diagrammatically. This program is bound to upset motorists who fondly imagine that the cost per mile can be calculated solely on petrol costs, and not, as is done here, on the hidden costs such as insurance, maintenance and repairs. If, on the other hand, you are a compulsive figure juggler, this could keep you happy for hours, even costing out hypothetical trips around the country.

Geoffrey Ellis

Only man (or woman) can think

From P. T. Hobson, The Pound, Clee, Shropshire: The illustration to Philip Manchester's article (Computer Horizons March 22) implies a question with which the article itself does not deal, but which is of fundamental importance to the future development of the human race. This question is by no means new, and was discussed in correspondence in *The Times* in 1949. This followed publication by you of

an interview with the late A. M. Turing, mathematician and computer scientist (June 11, 1949) in which he was asked for his views on the Lister Oration of that year, given by G. Jefferson to the British Medical Association.

The "Electronic Digital Processing Computer" had recently become a matter of importance to commerce, and the Oration dealt with the question, "Can a Machine Think?"

Though the brain/mind

dichotomy has been a subject of absorbing interest to philosophers from time immemorial. Descartes is generally regarded as being the father of modern development of the subject, and his famous dictum "I think, therefore I am", while denied by the determinists and reductionists and immortalized by Ryle as implying a "ghost in the machine", is not entirely rejected by many modern scientific thinkers. British academic philosophers, however, have been singularly quiet concerning the effect of modern technological developments on this important question.

Words which have been used for centuries both by ordinary people and philosophers to describe attributes of the human mind are used to describe the observed performance of computers and their associated programs without hesitation: memory, knowledge, belief, intelligence, thought and thinking, perception, cognition, are used without any attempt at a limiting definition.

This use of the adjective "limiting" is of crucial importance, because it has now been amply demonstrated that the purely logical part of these various mental capacities can be readily duplicated by machines, at speeds far in excess of human abilities.

But each of these attributes involves more than purely logical processes; all involve self-awareness in one form or another, and it is significant that words such as emotion, desire, volition and feeling are not included in the literature of artificial intelligence.

Psychologists now accept that much of this logical processing undoubtedly proceeds below the level of conscious awareness, but the human mind is capable of focusing attention at will on much of this activity, and "I" know that "I" am thinking. Does a computer, composed as it is of inanimate "chips", as distinct from the living tissue of the brain, know what it is doing?

Unfortunately, present and future generations will have been educated to believe that the answer to this fundamental question is "Yes". Already many decisions are being made on the basis of information ejected from a computing system, and one may ask, where

From Hilary Reed, Reeds, Three Stiles Road, Farnham: Looming large on your Computer Horizons (March 1) was an article which demonstrates that some experts in high tech – Mr Molynex, "head of information technology unit of the Industrial Society" no less – have yet to emerge from the caves. The whole article, which "pinpoints the importance of the man at the sharp end", as well as its cartoon illustration, carefully avoids any reference to the contribution of many women who work at every level in information technology.

Yet again arrogant assumptions are to be read in your newspaper that important roles belong only to men. And this written by an "authority" whose title would be accurately "head of mis-information unit".

Please be a little more careful to choose contributors who are aware of the whole of the human race, not half.

At the exhibition was a downcast girl who was leaving school and badly wanted to work in an office, but could not because of her handicap. When told about the Dicassette, her face lit up. She realized that it could help her achieve her ambition, and become employable on the same terms as a sighted person.

"This incident showed me the gap in the market that Erycbridge could fill," he recalls. "I could see that the progress of the electronic office could bring with it a danger to the visually-handicapped members of our society. Their

People/Philip Rule of Safe Computing

bureau business, and Safe has discontinued its interests in the area. Ownership of the company has also been restructured, and Chubb disposed of its shareholding last year.

Meanwhile, Rule has taken the company into new activities. His interest in manufacturing industry led to the acquisition of the computer department of PERA, the Production Engineering Research Association, giving Safe Computing a flourishing business in production control work.

One result was a software package called SafeCS, a production control system which runs on ICL machines. It will generate £1m of Safe Computing's income this year.

Next came MicroSafeS, a version which can run on a variety of microcomputers. "It serves a very big, largely untapped market," Philip Rule says.

Responses to MicroSafeS have been high, though sales have been slow so far. "We are at the exciting time when we will see whether it's really going to take off," Rule says.

Rather reluctantly Rule agreed, and a joint venture was formed. It was named Safe Computing after Chubb's best-known product.

Chubb owned 75 per cent, but Rule was in charge. Turnover was £140,000 in the first year, and he doubled it each year for five years. Now big changes have overtaken the company.

He thinks that it could be generating as much revenue in a year or so as the larger SafeCS package, adding £1m or more to each year's turnover. "But it could go astronomically beyond that," he adds. "We have literally hundreds and hundreds of prospects."

R.W.

Braille production

How the blind can keep informed

One of the social benefits of microchips and microcomputers is that they can greatly improve the lives of the blind and poor sighted. Voice synthesizer devices, for example, can enable a blind person to become a typist-linked to the keys of a keyboard, they can be arranged to generate the appropriate spoken sound for whichever letter or character key is pressed. The sounds of words typed in can also be produced.

These and other technically feasible aids therefore make it possible for blind people to undertake clerical work and deal with correspondence as competently as sighted people. Hitherto, however, not much progress has been made to make this concept an economic practicality.

Trimation redesigned and enhanced the device mechanically and electronically, and recently relaunched it as the MicroBrailleur. A compact desktop device weighing only 8lb, it provides a blind person with a high speed, equivalent of a standard office word-processing machine.

Now, thanks to teletypewriter maintenance and the vision of a British data communications engineer, it is fast becoming a reality. The engineer, Reg White, runs a small but rapidly growing teletypewriter maintenance company in the City called Erycbridge Communications. Two years ago, he was asked to maintain a Braille embossing device made by the French company SAGEM.

This started his interest in aids for the blind; and he took out a licence to market the French company's latest product at that time, a portable electronic Braille producing unit called the Dicassette, which enables a blind person to take notes, produce copy, and store it on a tape cassette.

White took the Dicassette to an exhibition at the Edinburgh Royal Blind Asylum and School where a dramatic incident brought home to him the need for an office system for the blind.

At the exhibition was a downcast girl who was leaving school and badly wanted to work in an office, but could not because of her handicap. When told about the Dicassette, her face lit up. She realized that it could help her achieve her ambition, and become employable on the same terms as a sighted person.

"This incident showed me the gap in the market that Erycbridge could fill," he recalls. "I could see that the progress of the electronic office could bring with it a danger to the visually-handicapped members of our society. Their

employment prospects depend, like everyone else's, on being able to compete successfully in the new high technology environment".

Since then, White has monitored developments in aids for the blind in Britain and abroad, and, carried out development work himself. SAGEM subsequently assigned the patents, design and manufacturing rights of the Dicassette to an American company, Trimation Inc, in Florida, with whom White has a close working relationship.

Trimation redesigned and enhanced the device mechanically and electronically, and recently relaunched it as the MicroBrailleur. A compact desktop device weighing only 8lb, it provides a blind person with a high speed, equivalent of a standard office word-processing machine.

The MicroBrailleur can function as an electronic typewriter, a portable computer terminal, an audio recorder, a data processor, or simply as a notebook. It enables text to be prepared in Braille and automatically converted into normal text. It also converts normal text into Braille without the operator needing to know Braille.

Text is stored on a built-in cassette, a standard C90 cassette being capable of storing 1,000 pages of Braille, and can be checked on a tactile readout comprising a line of 24 Braille characters each of six dots that protrude and retract. Other features include a micro-processor-controlled system for editing, indexing and searching stored data.

White has enhanced the capability of the MicroBrailleur

Frank Brown

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
CRIPPS COMPUTING CENTRE
SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER
Applications are invited for the post of Systems Programmer in the Systems Section. The Centre operates ICL 2977 and 2976 under VME/B, a VAX 11/780 and PDP 11/34 systems. Both wide and local area networks development work is being undertaken, providing links to the University of Manchester Computing Centre, the University of Nottingham and PSS. A GEC Campus Packet Switching Exchange is also shortly to be installed. The Systems Section is responsible for VME/B systems software, including development of general operating systems software, including user command language, networking, Arrows System and News/Mail facilities. It is also responsible for the maintenance and development of a Unix-based system on a PDP-11 and an ICL PERC.

The successful candidate will be developing systems software for one or more of the above mentioned systems, and a good knowledge of VME/B or VME 2900 and some Unix experience would be an advantage.

Applicants should normally have a good honours degree or equivalent experience.

Salaries will be in the range £6,375-£7,655 (A) or £8,555-£9,370 (B) according to qualifications.

Further particulars and information forms, returnable not later than 30 April 1983, may be obtained from the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Ref. 830.

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Richard White

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Tel: 01-388 2284

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Reviews: Visi-sight, BBC software, Cells and Serpents, An exciting epic adventure on key-in, Programs: Amazing new games and facilities for you to run, PLUS: An array of specialist publications.

OUT THIS FRIDAY

Software Consultants for Telecommunications

Systems Designers Limited is a leading international systems consultancy specializing in the mini and micro-computer areas and offering consultancy, systems and software development services, and a range of latest technology software products. The high technology Business Communications area of the company is expanding to meet the growing demands in this challenging environment. This has created excellent opportunities for a few suitably qualified computer professionals to join at senior level. The appointments are:

Consultant (£14k to £18k)
With experience in one or more of the following: videoconferencing, telecommunications, packet switching networks. Applicants must be able to liaise with clients, produce proposals for new work, carry out project definition studies and design real-time systems using the very latest in mini and micro-computer technology.

Project Manager (£16k to £18k)
With experience of handling both time and materials and fixed price contracts in a demanding, competitive environment. Applicants must have experience in client liaison, contractual and man management situations. Experience in taking at least one reasonably sized project successfully through from initiation to acceptance must be demonstrated.

Applications should be made by telephone to Pat Gray on Freephone 3179, or write to:

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Systems House, 105 Fleet Road, Fleet, Hants GU13 8NZ, quoting reference ST02

مكتبة امن رام الله

THE TIMES 1000

1982/1983

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Just like the weather, the stock market was in a contrary mood yesterday and after coming within a whisker of 700, faded to end lower on the day.

The FT index, which has jumped more than 40 points since Easter, closed 0.5 down at 695.0, having been 2.9 up at 10 am.

However, the undertone remained strong supported by a late burst of buying support from New York where the Dow Jones Industrial average resumed its record run after the weekend break.

Blue chips were again in demand with BOC Group 2p up on the day at 216p along with Fisons 5p to 610p. ICI reduced an earlier fall to end only 4p down at 434p. Glaxo also retained a strong following ending 5p up at 197.32. The strength of the market was reflected by brokers Rowes & Pitman's ability to place 9.1 million shares in Kyn Tint Zinc, the mining finance group, without too much trouble. The seller was Mr Harry Oppenheimer's Charter Consolidated, which sold more than 1 million shares this year for £6m.

Yesterday's placing was executed at about 562p, valuing

Index fails to pass 700

ACCOUNT DAY : Dealings began, April 11. Dealings end, April 22. Contango Day, April 21. Settlement Day, May 3.

Gilt recovered from a

a late run - possibly to 90p

for shares of ICL, Britain's

biggest manufacturer of computers, ahead of the figures. The

market is looking for profits of

£20m against a loss of £13m.

The shares were 1p lighter at 79p yesterday, after 81p.

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FOOTBALL: THE STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

Hartlepool and Wigan put the point for Maxwell

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Robert Maxwell's plan to amalgamate two third division clubs, Oxford United and Reading, next season was both weakened and strengthened yesterday. As the roar of dissent continued to rumble within the Thames Valley, two voices of support were heard amid cries for help from Hartlepool United and Wigan Athletic to the north.

Local protesters have described his idea as "crazy and unworkable" and some Oxford players are planning a sit-in at the Manor Ground on Saturday. "I understand and sympathise with their strong feelings," Mr Maxwell, Oxford's chairman, said, "but the two clubs had no alternative, with costs going up and neither side receiving sufficient support."

"Supporters must realize that they have to move with the times," he added. "I hope the new club the Thames Valley Royals, could eventually get into the first division and they will carry on the great traditions of Oxford and Reading. Otherwise, there will be no League football in this area."

The fate of Wigan, currently

seventeenth in the third division,

will not be decided until May 17, two days after the season ends, when a meeting of creditors and shareholders is to be held to wind up the club. Wigan are more than £250,000 in debt and cannot afford to pay their players' wages.

Freddie Pye, Wigan's chairman, said: "This isn't just a cry for help. If the club cannot stand on its own two feet, it has no right to continue. We are simply being honest and it is up to our creditors and shareholders whether they push us into liquidation." The main shareholder is Ken Bates, a former director and now chairman of Chelsea.

Wigan were promoted last season

but earlier this month they

dismissed their manager, Larry Lloyd. Bobby Charlton took over as caretaker and he will have noticed with some poignancy that on the last day of the season the visitors are Preston North End, the only club which has had no managerial experience. Curiously enough, a similar twist of fate brings together Oxford and Reading for an afternoon at least, on May 2.

Merseyside united against Manchester

By Stuart Jones

A bridge of purple will tonight span the rivalry of Merseyside. The blue scarves of Everton and the red colours of Liverpool will be tied together in a common cause for if Everton, eager to strengthen their European claims, beat Manchester United at Goodison Park, Liverpool will be crowned officially as the League champions.

The owners are bright. United were fortunate to survive on their own ground against Everton in the sixth round of the FA Cup five weeks ago and, after beating Arsenal to reach the final of the competition on Saturday, are without Moran and, probably, Bailey and Grimes, as well as Coppell, Muhlen and Macari.

As Bailey is suffering from a strained hamstring and his deputy, Westlands, has an injured calf, fears may be called up for his first senior appearance in goal. Moran, who took his total of facial stitches to 82 on Saturday, will be replaced by McGrath, who came on for the last 10 minutes at Villa Park.

Everton, in contrast, have been relaxing for nine days since their victory over Brighton. United's opponents at Wembley at the end of May. They have lost only two of

their home league fixtures this season, a 5-0 humiliation by Liverpool in November and a 3-2 defeat by Arsenal on the same day their neighbours won the League (Milk) Cup.

Should Everton win, they will move above West Ham United and Manchester to eighth place and within reach of a place in the FA Cup next season. They would also gain revenge for their league defeat at Old Trafford last September when Robson and Whiteside, as on Saturday, claimed a goal apiece.

The portents for Brighton, who need points for a different reason, are as gloomy. Unless they collect at least one from their visit to Roker Park tonight, they will never come closer to equaling the year of Leicester City who, in 1969, reached the FA Cup final and were relegated the same season.

Sunderland's home record is scarcely worse than Everton's. It conceding less than a goal a game, they have been beaten by only one team, Middlesbrough. Forced into Ipswich Town, all before the turn of the year. Since holding Liverpool, when they were bottom at the end of December, they have dropped a further four points.

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RACING

Non-stop rumours leave Guineas market in chaos

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The 2,000 Guineas market was in turmoil yesterday after some of the leading bookmakers, notably Hills, Corals, and Eads, decided to suspend operations for the time being. Their reason was another spate of unsettling rumours about the well-being of both Dioray, the anti-pote favourite and Dicis, the winner of the Middle Park Stakes and Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket last autumn.

During the course of the day all rumours were reported by their respective camps, but those denials did not have a calming effect on a market which knows the meaning of the expression that there is never smoke without fire too well. And, as we have come to know, the bookmakers' intelligence service is second to none.

Surprisingly, in view of all this, Ladbrokes are still betting on the race and they make Dioray, Dicis and Teccino, 3-1 joint-favourites, with Wazir at 6-1. The Tote are also continuing to do business, although they have decided to take the precaution of offering Danzato to their clients at 5-2 "with a run". They then go 5-2 Goryms, 3-1 Dicis and 11-2 Wazir.

The latest word from Ireland, where Dicis is trained by Vicente Lopez, is that the horse will still be out for Newmarket even though it is acknowledged that he did work indifferent last week. It will be interesting to hear how he fares today when he is due to gallop at Leopardstown.

As far as Dicis is concerned the feeling is that professionals are now fielding against him in the belief that time is running out for Harry Cical to get him to his racing after that pulled muscle and subsequent

Epsom

Draw advantages: Low numbers best.

Totals: Double 3.10, 4.10. Treble 2.35, 3.40, 4.45.

[TV (ITV) 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races].

2.0 CUDINGTON AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-o maidens): £1,646; 5f (8 runners)

101 IN A NUTSHELL (Mrs D Doughty) D Thom 9-7 P Robinson 7
 103 MR CARACTA (Mrs D Doughty) Mrs E 9-7 8 Greenholt 7
 105 MR DUNLOP (Mrs H Hobbs) C Wimber 8-4 6 Mills 5
 108 3 ASTRAL DANCER (C Wimber) C Wimber 8-4 D Dinsley 4
 110 8 CRYSTAL DANCER (Mrs H Hobbs) C Wimber 8-3 A Dicks 7
 112 9 DELLWOOD (Mrs F Deller) H Wicks 8-0 P Bradwell 5
 124 7-4 Astral Dancer, 11-4 Mr Caracta, 9-2 in A Nutshell, 8 Dellwood Iris, 8 Dragonet's Pet, 12 Arnolds Agent, 16 others.

2.35 DEAN SWIFT HANDICAP (22,820; 1m 4f) (6)

201 233123: VOYANT (D) (Mrs J de Rothchild) H Hobbs 14-10 P Waldron 6
 202 104600: FORWARD (D) (N Hunt) Dunc 4-9-5 W Carson 6
 203 246123: WEAVER'S PIN (Mrs M French) M French 6-3-8 5 Marrow 6
 204 610004: GOLDEN BRIGANDER (W Gredley) J Old 5-0 8 Rouse 6
 205 330-311: RUGGED (P Doughty) D Thom 5-7-7 (4 ex) P Robinson 1
 218 11-8 Rugged, 3 Forward, 9-2 Voyant, 6 Golden Brigandier, 10 Weaver's Pin, 25 Steel

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TENNIS: MUDDLED THINKING BY ATP

Two iniquitous payments that must not be mistaken for prize money

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Remember the old British Hard Court Championships? Bournemouth is not like that any more. The State Express Classic which begins today is for men only. The women, 64 of them, are competing for less than £1,700 in a separate tournament at West Worthing. By contrast, 16 men are winning doubles for more than £48,000 in an over-35 side-show at Bournemouth.

Well, perhaps more than a sideshow. What a joy it should be (tempered by a little sadness at the toll the years have taken) to have another look at players who have given us so much pleasure. Among them, will be six men who won Wimbledon championships in singles or doubles, or both: Roy Emerson, Manuel Santana, Jan Kodes, Fred Stolle, Bob Hewitt, and Owen Davidson. For some reason, they forgot to invite Fred McMillan.

The seedings say that in the main event, the grand prix tournament, the last eight will be: Jose Higueras v Jaime Fillo, Manuel Orantes v Balazs Taroczy, Victor Pecci v Silvano Glickstein and Christopher Mottram v Tomas Snid. Interesting first-round matches include Glickstein v Claudia Panatta, Mottram v Angel Glezquez (runner-up last year), Per Cederqvist (Viktor Tulasne (both teenagers) and Jim Brown, aged 17 v Fillo, aged 36.

The prize money is £73,964. In addition, the tournament must pay £10,417 into the grand prix pool and £4,734 to the Association of Tennis Professionals. It has become the practice to use official but misleading grand prix language in lumping the three sums together and calling the total "prize money". The W.T.P. in their weekly news paper, were so far as to state that men and women compete at Wimbledon with a total of £978,211! That is not true. The only defence for such muddled thinking is that it represents grand prix policy. The prize money at Wimbledon will be £904,246. The figure of £978,211 is made up by the addition of £59,172 paid to the bonus pool and £14,793 paid to the ATP.

All grand prix tournaments contribute to the bonus pool and also, this year, to the ATP. It is difficult to justify either claim, but it is indeed inaccurate to claim that they form part of a particular tournament's prize money. They would do so only if both sums were added to the money which tournaments pay directly to the players.

The year-end bonuses reward the more successful players for their commitment to the grand prix circuit. Thus are the leading men paid twice for their successes. Moreover, it is reasonable that, by contributing to the bonus pool, tournaments increase the earnings of players who may question, if ever, if they are being paid? They are fastidious specialists, for example, who do not compete in the French championships and clay-court specialists who do not compete at Wimbledon. Why should France and Wimbledon, to take only two examples, pay players who do not support their championships?

The payment to the ATP is new

page 23

Teenager gives Mrs Lloyd a scare

Amelia Island, Florida (Reuter) - Chris Lloyd, the No 1 seed, rallied from a 4-2 deficit in the third set to beat 15-year-old Carling Bassett, of Canada, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5, in the final of the \$250,000 Women's Association (WTA) Championship.

The 25-year-old American and

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It was no secret that the ATP could not afford to be independent unless they trimmed their staff, their services to members, their administration. They needed a secure income.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

00 **Cefax** All: News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details.
 00 **Breakfast Time** presented by Frank Bough and Sian Scott. News at 6.00, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. **22a** Goodard reviews the morning papers at 7.32 and 8.32. **Keep Fit** and the family budget between 6.45 and 7.00; tonight's television preview between 7.15 and 7.30; report from America between 7.45 and 8.00; and horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45. The guest is Alvin Stardust. **Closedown** at 9.00.

00 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Judith Stamp. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only); financial report followed by news headlines with subs 1.00). **People Mill** at One. **Heads** today are Julie Tullis, the on-air woman and Britain on the International Climbing Expedition to the Himalayas and Jean Nidetch, the American woman who is the world-wide leader of Weightwatchers. **1.45 Heads and Tales**. A *See-Saw* programme for the very young (r).
 00 **Film: Slaughter Train** (1951) starring Gig Young, Brian Donlevy and Virginia Grey. A series of hold-ups threaten the fragile peace between the US Cavalry and the Navajo Indians and causes a dilemma for Captain Dempster. Directed by Irving Allen. 3.15 **String of Pearls** from West Church Ballymena (shown Sunday). 3.33 Regional news (not London).

05 **Play School**. Shown earlier on BBC 2. 4.40 **The Record**. **Breaks** with Roy Castle and Norma McVey (r). 5.05 **Kenya**. The world news for young people presented by Paul McDowell. 5.10 **The Song and the Story**. It's a *St Clair* with songs associated with urban England in the early 1900s.

00 **News with Mervi Stuer** 6.10: South East at 52.

02 **Nationwide**.

05 **Triangle**. Episode five and Matt Taylor is accused of aiding an illegal immigrant.

10 **Cliif** The third of a four-part series charting the career of singer Cliff Richard. This programme features his 1961 concert tour of the United States, his first since 1960 (r).

00 **Now Get Out of That** presented by Bernard Falk. The two teams reach the communications cable that must be destroyed. After that they make their wet and weary journey back to base. Will they be able to make it in the allotted time?

03 **Tears Before Bedtime**. Comedy series about a married couple who run away from their children. Tonight they are 70 miles away and looking for a place to live.

00 **News with John Humphrys**.

02 **Play: Shall I Be Mother?** by Peter Ransley. The story of a fragile friendship between two young teenage girls in care at an assessment centre.

Although they are on the short list for places in a favoured teenage hostel they plan to run away together, but they separate when both Starving Eve Gorman and Cassie Sturt.

05 **News headlines**.

00 **Chicago Story: Who Needs the Truth?** The prime suspect in a vicious rape and murder case is released on a technicality and the police are powerless to stop another tragedy.

00 **Weather**.

TV-am

00 **Daybreak** with Gavin Scott followed at 6.30 by **Good Morning Britain** presented by Nick Owen. News at 6.00, 6.20, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15. **22a** Goodard reviews the morning papers at 7.32 and 8.32. **Keep Fit** and the family budget between 6.45 and 7.00; tonight's television preview between 7.15 and 7.30; report from America between 7.45 and 8.00; and horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45. The guest is Alvin Stardust. **Closedown** at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

00 **Sesame Street**. Learning made fun with the Muppets. 10.30 **Science International**. Michael Bentine with news of the latest scientific developments. 10.35 **The Eye of the Octopus**. A city born and bred New Zealander aged 18 to 25. Pacific and where he has to learn to cope (r). 11.30 **Play School**. More stories introduced by Derek Griffiths (r).

12.00 **Cooksheet Bay**. Adventures of the Cockle Twins for the very young (r). 12.15 **Once Upon a Time**. Mark Wynter tells the story of *Brer Rabbit's Children* (r). 12.30 **The Sullivans**. Wartime drama about an Australian family.

1.00 **News 12.10 Thirteen** news 1.30 **Crown Court: Talking to the Enemy**. A journalist who interviewed an IRA terrorist is accused of not passing on information to the police (r).

2.00 **A PA** presented by Trevor Hyatt. Gil Neill is with **Bedside Manners**, a group of strong players, when they visit the Victoria Hospital and Jimmy Charters talks to Dr Ross Coles of the Institute of Hearing about tinnitus.

2.30 **Racing from Epsom**. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the Deau Swift Handicap Stakes (2.35); the Eske Blue Riband Trial Stakes (3.10) and the Evelyn Handicap Stakes (3.40).

4.00 **Cooksheet Bay**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon, 4.15 **Desperadoes**.

4.20 **Razzmatazz**. 4.45 **CB TV** - Channel 14.15 **Emmendale Farm**.

5.45 **News 6.00 Thirteen** news.

6.20 **Crossroads**. Oliver Banks suggests to Sharon Metcalfe that they buy a house.

6.45 **Reporting London** presented by Michael Barrett. There are reports on the fall and rise of the Janet Reiger legend, business and why the Royal Agricultural Hall in Islington has remained empty for 12 years.

7.15 **Film: All the Kind Strangers** (1974). A made-for-television movie starring Shirley Knight as a New York teacher.

7.30 **Photographer** Chris Goffey learns more about the new breadbather regulations.

8.00 **Discovering Bands**. Tony Soper and his band discuss the identity of different species and looks at the art of nest building.

8.25 **Just Another Day**. The last in the series and John Pitman visits the Essex seaside town of Walton-on-the-Naze.

9.55 **Dear Ladies**. Dame Edna Everage and Doctor Evadne Hodge decide to have a picnic as well as indulge in bell ringing and fund raising.

10.00 **News**.

10.30 **Medical Mysteries** - Who pays the price? Are doctors and surgeons over-protected when they make accusations of negligence thrown at them?

11.30 **Medical Mistakes Debate**. A discussion on the points raised by the previous programme, chaired by Robert Kee.

12.15 **Close With Sir Michael Hordern**. **Closedown** at 1.30.

ENTERTAINMENTS

00 **West End** (noted for television news) on the back of the page. **West End** (noted for television news) on the back of the page.

00 **Opera & Ballet**.

00 **English National Opera** (noted for television news) on the back of the page.

00 **London Opera House** (noted for television news) on the back of the page.

00 **Teatro alla Scala** (noted for television news) on the back of the page.

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Refugee accused of seedy past

By George Clark

Prospects for Mr Stanco Papasoiu, the deported Romanian, ever being allowed back into Britain now seem slim, although some MPs still think he should be granted asylum.

Mr David Waddington, Minister of State, Home Office, said yesterday: "It now appears that he was convicted of rape when he was in Romania."

He said it was one thing to consider the admission of a refugee when there were compassionate circumstances, but it was an entirely different matter when the Home Office had to consider someone with "a seedy past".

Mr Waddington said that when he was deported back to Romania, Mr Papasoiu had claimed that he had been tortured and beaten by prison officers in England. But a report from the doctor who examined him after his release from the Ashford remand centre "deprived entirely" those allegations.

According to a report published by the official Romanian news agency, Mr Papasoiu, who is 29, was sentenced to three years and two months imprisonment for taking part in a gang rape in 1977; but he was released by presidential decree after serving only two months of the sentence.

Mr Papasoiu has been expelled from Romania and is now in Austrian refugee camp. Inspite of his allegations of ill-treatment, it is possible that he will again seek asylum in Britain. The British Romanian Association and Amnesty International believe that he is a genuine refugee and should be allowed in.

Mr Waddington seems to have relied on reports put out by the official Romanian press agency, which stated that Mr Papasoiu had also been interned in Austria, Italy and West Germany, and that last year he spent six months in a French prison for theft.

Some MPs who criticized the Home Office decision last month say that the Romanian reports should not be accepted without thorough checking.

Manila fires

Manila (AFP) - About 1,500 people were left homeless after two separate fires in a Muslim neighbourhood in central Manila and a residential-commercial area in suburban Makati



Princess gets nose-rub welcome from Maoris

The Princess of Wales received a nose-rubbing from Susan Piper, aged 16, at a walk about in an Auckland park yesterday. It is a traditional form of Maori welcome.

But a royal nose-rub by the Princess scored only five out of 10, according to another Maori girl, writes Granis Forbes of the Press Association.

The stench of protest hung over a gale ballet performance attended by the Prince and Princess at Auckland's St James Theatre. No amount of cleaning could hide the terrible smell of sulphur hydroxide left by a Maori protest group two days ago, but the royal couple did not seem to notice.

Demonstrations by the Maoris are expected during the two-week royal tour in New Zealand, and this was their first shot - dozens of stink bombs left in the theatre to seep into seats and carpets.

The protest group, who left the glass vials hidden in the stalls, also put quick-set cement in lavatories and ripped up seats.

But if the Prince and Princess, who were a blue

taffeta ball gown for the performance of *Coppelia*, got the odd whiff they certainly did not show it and appeared to thoroughly enjoy the production.

They are also unlikely to know that a former Minister of Maori Affairs boycotted the Princess' walk about.

Police are on full alert for protests by the Maoris, who want compensation for land acquired during the reign of Queen Victoria.

Dawn Petley, aged 17, head girl of the Queen Victoria School, initiated the Princess into the traditional welcome when she and the Prince of Wales attended a display by 35,000 school children at Eden Park.

After giving the Princess the greeting, which is known as *Hongi*, Dawn said: "She needs more practice."

Prince Charles, was also slightly apprehensive about the nose-rubbing ceremony. He told Susan Piper: "Please don't rub my nose too hard." He had hurt his nose in a hunting accident before the tour.

Lead-free petrol by 1990

Continued from page 1

lowed from food or even the glazing on plates. Professor Southwood said that concerted EEC action was necessary otherwise Continental lead pollution might "waltz across the Channel", for example, in

vegetables.

The commission called for more research into lead in alcoholic drinks, but its main remaining concern was paint. Removal of paint containing lead by dry-sanding could be dangerous, the commission added. Contaminated dust could be inhaled or might settle in carpets. Although the yellow paint used to make road markings outside schools did not contain enough lead to be dangerous, local councils should be forced to use paint with the lowest possible lead content.

The introduction of unleaded petrol is likely to add one or two pence to the cost of a gallon of petrol.

Leading article, page 13

Channel 4 may face call for shutdown

Independent television financially disastrous. Now, companies may ask for Channel 4 to be shut down until the after nearly six months, the dispute over payments for companies appearing in commercials on the network has been settled, it was disclosed last night.

The companies which pay for Channel 4 by subscription are ready to ask the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) to close it because the dispute has so far cost the about £50m in lost advertising revenue. The companies have paid about £130m this year to finance Channel 4; in return they collect the advertising revenue.

However, present Channel 4 losses are such that many of the companies are making such small profits that they will be unable to plough sufficient money back into their own productions to maintain programme output.

Programme executives from the independent television companies had a secret meeting earlier this month with the IBA when they told the authority that the dispute was becoming

worse.

Neither side has made any moves aimed at ending the dispute since January, and therefore the ITV companies want Channel 4 to be closed until a settlement is found.

The dispute is over the IPA's refusal to pay actors appearing in commercials on Channel 4 the same rate as on ITV because of smaller audiences.

Equity have now said they would accept 50 per cent of ITV payments.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Acts of an apostle for Third World

Yesterday the House debated the plight of the Third World.

As always when that subject is under discussion in the Chamber, the speech which aroused the most interest among members was that of Mr Edward Heath - or Major Refat, to give him his military rank.

The house was ill-attended until he rose to contribute. Those members who were present from the start seemed to agree that the subject was exceptionally serious and important. That could explain the low attendance. But Mr Heath always draws a small crowd because members are interested to see how rude he is going to be about the Government.

A combination of the subject, the fact that it was a Monday, and the absence of any division votes requiring MPs to be present, meant that the crowd was smaller than usual.

Very soon it became smaller still, for Mr Heath decided to be relatively restrained on the subject of the Government. But he was slightly rude at the start of his speech. He said that Mr Denis Healey, the chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, had been "unfair" to Mr Pym, the Foreign Secretary, by saying that Mr Pym had not put forward any definite proposals for fear of being sent to the House of Lords.

"If he were to put forward a definite proposal, then the danger of going to the House of Lords will be infinitely greater", Mr Heath said. Everybody laughed. Mr Heath looked around, rather pleased to close down Channel 4 until a settlement is reached.

Their concern is aggravated by the fact that the dispute, which has also hit TV-AM, is between Equity, the actors' union and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising (IPA), responsible for commercials on independent television and as a result does not involve either ITV, Channel 4 or the breakfast company in any negotiations.

Both sides have made any moves aimed at ending the dispute since January, and therefore the ITV companies want Channel 4 to be closed until a settlement is found.

The dispute is over the IPA's refusal to pay actors appearing in commercials on Channel 4 the same rate as on ITV because of smaller audiences.

Equity have now said they would accept 50 per cent of ITV payments.

That left Major Refat as the source of interest. Like most military types, Mr Heath favours the brisk statement of the objective to be seized. "A solution to these problems will never be found until there is an expanding world economy."

Objective then: expand world economy. Mr Heath was convincing about how to do that, or at least about how to do it without also expanding world inflation.

A combination of those familiar croaked tones of Mr Heath's, and his Churchillian way with Romance languages, made him difficult to follow at one stage. Thus he deplored the riots in So Appalling, and it was some time before one realized that this was his way with São Paulo. No harm was done.

Mr Heath remained being rude about the Government, but only in the context of being rude about all the Western Governments for not doing enough to help the Third World. This rather spoilt the fun, from the point of view of casual passers by among MPs, so it was no wonder they fled the Chamber

order to go with main courses in Indian restaurants.

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